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ABSTRACT

This directory lists all projects funded by the National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) during the 1997 fiscal year. It includes summaries, funding data, and contact information for a broad range of programs. Programs are grouped into the following categories: (1) research and demonstration projects; (2) rehabilitation research and training centers; (3) utilization projects; (4) rehabilitation engineering research centers; (5) fellowships; (6) field-initiated research projects; (7) model spinal cord injury systems; (8) research training grants; (9) small business innovative research Phase 1; (10) small business innovative research Phase 2; (11) state technology assistance; (12) ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) technical assistance programs; and (13) NIDRR contracts. Appendices provide a subject index, an index by grantees, an index of projects by state, an index by principal investigators, and a listing of NIDRR programs on the Internet. (DB)

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ED 417 542

NIDRR PROGRAM DIRECTORY

FISCAL YEAR 1997

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY
AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

EC 306286

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U.S. Department of Education
National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research
600 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

PROGRAM DIRECTORY
FISCAL YEAR 1997

INTRODUCTION

This edition of the *NIDRR Program Directory* lists all projects funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) during the 1997 fiscal year. It includes summaries and contact information for a broad range of programs designed to improve rehabilitation services and outcomes for individuals with disabilities, and to assist in the solutions to problems encountered by individuals with disabilities in their daily activities.

Funding for most projects is made on a 6-month, 12-month, 36-month, or 60-month basis, depending on the type of project. The State Technology Assistance projects are funded in a unique process that is explained in Chapter 11.

The *Directory* is compiled by the National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC). NARIC functions as NIDRR's library, providing the rehabilitation community with information and referral services to help locate pertinent research related to particular areas of expertise. Since 1977 NARIC has been a primary source of rehabilitation and disability information generated by NIDRR funds, with special priority services to NIDRR staff and NIDRR-funded project staff.

NARIC also produces a companion document to this *Directory* called the *Compendium of Products by NIDRR Grantees and Contractors*. Each project provides NARIC with at least one copy of each of its publications, including reports, monographs, journal articles, books, book chapters, training materials, directories, and videos. Once these publications are received, they are added to the NARIC collection and *Compendium* database, which provides additional research resources to researchers and consumers.

For the 1997 *Directory*, a NARIC liaison within each project acted as a conduit for all communications to and from the NARIC project. In some cases, the principal investigator acts as the NARIC liaison. Communications between NARIC and each project was accomplished via mail, phone, fax, and electronic mail.

Every effort was made to obtain correct and updated information from each project by the NARIC Media and Acquisitions staff. Neither NARIC nor NIDRR assumes liability for the guide's contents or use thereof. NARIC does not evaluate or certify the programs or products of the organizations listed herein.

This *Directory* is not intended for use as a fiscal document to show how NIDRR funds are allocated; its purpose is to display the range of programs that NIDRR supports. This listing is current as of October 1, 1997.

NARIC operates under U.S. Department of Education contract HN970020.

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RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

These projects address rehabilitation priorities identified by NIDRR and published in the *Federal Register*. These priorities address a variety of problems encountered by people with disabilities. Projects are funded for up to 36 months.

California

A Comprehensive System of Care for Traumatic Brain Injury

Santa Clara Valley Medical Center (SCVMC)
950 South Bascom Avenue, Suite 2011
San Jose, CA 95128
tbisciproj@aol.com
http://www.tbi-sci-org

Principal Investigator: Karyl M. Hall, EdD
Contact Phone: 408/295-9896, ext. 16; Fax: 408/295-9913

Project Number: H133A70018
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $345,000

Abstract: This program is a comprehensive, interdisciplinary system of care whose rehabilitation program empowers consumers through a clinical program, community services for consumers, several important research studies, and dissemination of information. Clinical services and research studies include: (1) the community Vocational Task Force on vocational issues in brain injury; (2) the Peer Support Program for families and consumers from time of injury through community integration; (3) the Mild Brain Injury (MBI) program, that disseminates an educational brochure to all entering the emergency department who have sustained injuries to the head and those who have sustained an MBI (those who have residual complaints are evaluated for subtle deficits); (4) the Brain Injury University, which emphasizes vocational skills training, including weekend and evening community education programs. The project is operated in collaboration with several community agencies.

Rehabilitation of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers with Disabilities

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Berkeley Planning Associates
440 Grand Avenue, Suite 500
Oakland, CA 94610-5085
marlene@bpacal.com
http://www.bpacal.com

Principal Investigator: Marlene F. Strong
Contact Phone: 510/465-7884 (V); 510/465-4493 (TTY); Fax: 510/465-7885

Project Number: H133A40039
Start Date: October 1, 1994 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $174,825; FY 95 $174,827; FY 96 $174,825; FY 97 (No-cost extension through 3/31/98)

Abstract: Berkeley Planning Associates and the National Center for Farmworker Health are working together to conduct a project that is expected to improve rehabilitation services for Migrant Seasonal Farmworkers (MSFWs). This project: (1) collects primary data at a sample of Migrant Health Clinics, using in-person interviews of farmworkers; (2) makes case-study visits to a sample of six states, involving interviews with a variety of service providers involved with farmworkers, as well as farmworkers in these service systems; and (3) analyzes existing data on disabilities and chronic conditions among farmworkers and reviews existing studies on providing services to this population. Information collected is being disseminated to a number of audiences: (1) MSFWs and the service providers who serve them in specialized migrant services, including Migrant Health Center clinicians and teachers in Migrant Education programs; (2) vocational rehabilitation counselors; and (3) researchers studying farmworkers.

The Center on Emergent Disability

University of Illinois/Chicago
Institute on Disability and Human Development
1640 West Roosevelt Road
Chicago, IL 60608-6904
gfujiura@uic.edu

Principal Investigator: Glenn T. Fujiura, PhD
Contact Phone: 312/413-1977; Fax: 312/413-1326

Project Number: H133A60051
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $349,995; FY 97 $349,995
Abstract: This project is a broadly conceived nationwide research effort across multiple disciplines and constituencies. The work of the Center focuses on characterizing the impact of major health, social, and economic trends on the manifestation of disability in America. Core activities of the Center include: secondary analyses of major data sets, evaluation of public health surveillance systems, local needs assessment, policy analysis, and dissemination. This project is headquartered at the University of Illinois at Chicago with collaborating research groups at the University of Southern California Children's Hospital, Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center, Georgetown University Medical Center, Baylor College of Medicine, University of Minnesota, Northern Arizona University, and Vanderbilt University.

Illinois

Exercise and Recreation for Individuals with a Disability: Assessment and Intervention

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
Center for Health and Fitness
710 North Lake Shore Drive, Third Floor
Chicago, IL 60611
ricsport@megsinet.net

Principal Investigator: Jeffery Jones
Public Contact: Cory Nagel
Contact Phone: 312/908-4292; Fax: 312/908-1051

Project Number: H133A60032
Start Date: November 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $175,000; FY 97 $175,000
Abstract: This project demonstrates that participation in exercise and physical activities improves function, facilitates community reintegration, and enhances the quality of life of people with disabilities. The project: (1) investigates the long-term effects of an exercise fitness program on the physiology, metabolic performance, and quality of life of people with spinal cord injury, stroke, and cerebral palsy; (2) examines the role of self-efficacy in maintaining participation in an exercise fitness program; (3) describes the types and frequency of recreation and fitness activities among people who have had a stroke, people with spinal cord injury, and people with cerebral palsy; (4) examines the relationships between participation in recreation and exercise programs and the health status, life satisfaction, and depression in the above populations; and (5) delineates barriers and deterrents to participation in recreation and exercise programs that exist for a variety of disability groups.

Urban Planning and Education with Latino Communities Regarding the Implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act

University of Illinois/Chicago
Institute on Disability and Human Development
1640 West Roosevelt Road
Chicago, IL 60608-6904
fabricio@uic.edu

Principal Investigator: Fabricio E. Balcazar, PhD
Contact Phone: 312/413-1646 (V); 312/413-0453 (TTY); Fax: 312/413-2918

Project Number: H133A40032
Start Date: October 1, 1994 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $150,000; FY 95 $150,000; FY 96 $150,000; FY 97 (No-cost extension through 12/31/97)

Abstract: The main phases of this project are: (1) to establish a steering committee with representative leaders from the local Latino community, including people with disabilities and family members; (2) to conduct a participatory community needs assessment evaluation involving all relevant constituency groups in order to assess resources and information needs of the Latino community to further their compliance with the ADA; (3) to organize several focus groups involving interested parties to further specify the dimensions of the problems in view of those affected; (4) to set goals and implement solutions specific to the top priority problems identified; and (5) to evaluate progress periodically in reaching selected goals. A community education process is being conducted using trained volunteers to increase awareness in the Latino community of Chicago about the issues and concerns of people with disabilities and their families regarding ADA implementation. A public education campaign in Latino neighborhoods is currently under way.

Kansas

Ax S: The ADA Community Education and Implementation Project

Full Citizenship, Inc.
211 East Eighth, Suite F
Lawrence, KS 66044

Principal Investigator: R. M. Stineman
Contact Phone: 913/749-0603; Fax: 913/749-0646

Project Number: H133A40034
Start Date: October 1, 1994 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $149,820; FY 95 $149,820; FY 96 $149,820; FY 97 (No-cost extension through 12/31/97)
Abstract: Project Ax S is developing a model consisting of four products. *Total Transition Plan for Community Compliance with the ADA* is a manual designed to guide communities through the titles of the ADA in assessing their compliance status while planning and prioritizing activities to improve their compliance. *Strategies and Resources for Community Compliance with the ADA* is a catalog of strategies and best practices in making accommodations for people with disabilities, including a comprehensive listing of available resources. *Empowerment Evaluation: A Tool for Community Compliance with the ADA* is a guide to involving all community participants (employers, businesses, city officials, disability organizations, and people with disabilities and their families) in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of a community's compliance activities. *What Do I Say About the ADA?* is a package of materials that enables people to provide accurate, clear presentations on the ADA for community groups. The package allows for presentations of any length (half-hour to two hours) and includes materials in a variety of formats. The components of this model are being demonstrated in two phases, and in three non-metropolitan or rural communities. The products are being disseminated nationally.

Research and Demonstration of a Model for Successfully Accommodating Adults with Disabilities in Adult Education Programs

University of Kansas Institute for Adult Studies and
Kansas State University Department of Special Education
3061 Dole Center
Lawrence, KS 66045
dmellard@quest.sped.ukans.edu

Principal Investigator: Daryl Mellard, PhD; Warren White, PhD
Contact Phone: 913/864-4780; Fax: 913/864-5728

Project Number: H133A50008
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $175,000; FY 96 $175,000; FY 97 $175,000
Abstract: This project provides adult educators and adults with disabilities with validated accommodations useful in instruction and assessment. These accommodations help the individuals meet their educational needs and successfully function in employment and community settings. Also, information about their legal rights and responsibilities is made available, including handbooks on legal rights and responsibilities for both adults with disabilities and adult service providers, a *Compendium of Materials and Resources,* and a *Procedural Guide.* These materials are compiled through: (1) a national survey of adult education programs, (2) a state survey of enrollees with disabilities in adult education, and (3) a case study of one local program in an urban center with high unemployment and multicultural diversity. This process is aided by information gained from two symposia with adult educators and subject matter experts (proceedings and videotapes of the first symposium are available). An accommodations model that matches the functional needs of adults with disabilities to the demands of adult education programs is being developed; the accommodations model and related products are being tested using a national sample of adult educators.

Research and Demonstration Projects

Maryland

Johns Hopkins University Burn Injury Rehabilitation Model System

Baltimore Regional Burn Center
Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center
4940 Eastern Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21224
jfauerba@welchlink.welch.jhu.edu; delateur@gwgate1.jhmi.jhu.edu

Principal Investigator: James A. Fauerbach, PhD; Barbara J. deLateur, PhD
410/550-0894 (Fauerbach); 410/532-4717 (deLateur); Fax: 410/550-1165 (Fauerbach); 410/532-4719 (deLateur)

Project Number: H133A70025
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $294,375

Abstract: The goal of this project, a comprehensive and integrated program of research, is to provide a systematized protocol for the care of severely burn-injured pediatric and adult patients. The protocol is expected to serve as a platform for an accessible and compatible database containing all relevant data. The project validates and develops normative data for several measures related to physical, psychosocial, and vocational outcomes (self-selected walking speed task, hand function test, adjustment to disfigurement, generic and burn-specific quality-of-life tests). Additionally, the project conducts studies evaluating innovative methods of reducing functional impairment due to secondary complications, such as cross-joint contractures, deconditioning, post-trauma distress, disfigurement-related distress, and enhancing vocational quality of life and educational outcomes, including vocational rehabilitation intervention, school-based rehabilitation intervention. Expert training is provided to generalist health care professionals serving burn survivors in remote and rural regions. Finally, collaborative studies are being conducted with the University of Washington Model System and the New York Hospital Center/Cornell University.

Southeastern Michigan Traumatic Brain Injury System/NIDRR TBI Model Systems National Database

Wayne State University and Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
261 Mack Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48201
mrosenth@med.wayne.edu

Principal Investigator: Mitchell Rosenthal, PhD
313/745-9769
Public Contact: Cynthia Harrison-Felix, MS
Contact Phone: 313/745-1180; Fax: 313/745-1175

Project Number: H133A70021
Start Date: January 1, 1998 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $344,989 (SEMTBIS); $125,000 (TBI National Database)
Abstract: This project maintains and enhances an existing model system of care and conducts collaborative and local research projects including the following: (1) a multicenter collaborative project with existing Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Model Systems entitled Post-Acute Service Delivery: Needs, Interventions, Costs and Outcomes; (2) the local project Evaluation of an Enhanced Community-Based Vocational Training Program Serving Economically Disadvantaged Persons with TBI; (3) rehabilitation outcome, addressed through a combination of multicenter collaborative research and dissemination projects, as well as several local projects; (4) a multicenter collaborative project, Length of Stay in Inpatient Rehabilitation: Does It Make a Difference?; (5) a local project, Managed Primary Care for Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury: Prediction of Long-Term Medical Care Utilization and Costs; (6) a multicenter collaborative lead by this project: Implications of Violence as a Cause of TBI on Cost, Functional Outcome, and Long-Term Community Integration. SEMTBIS continues to manage the TBI National Database Center. Finally, the project goals include coordinating research and dissemination activities with other NIDRR TBI grantees to optimize research output, minimize redundancy of effort, and engage in collaborative dissemination.

A Four-Year Research and Demonstration Project to Address Ways to Improve the Employment Practices Covered by Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Cornell University
106 ILR Extension Building
Ithaca, NY 14853-3901
smb23@cornell.edu
http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/ped

Principal Investigator: Susanne Bruyère
607/255-7727 (V)
Public Contact: Deborah Fisher
Contact Phone: 607/255-9536 (V); 607/255-2891 (TTY); Fax: 607/255-2763

Project Number: H133A70005
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 48 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $249,958

Abstract: This project investigates how Title I of the ADA affects employment practices of private-sector small, medium, and large businesses, and ways to improve employment practices covered by the ADA. The research identifies employment practices that have challenged implementation of the ADA, and identifies interventions that can be used by private sector employers and people with disabilities to address these practices. The project examines employment policy and practices that enhance both the hiring and retention of workers with disabilities. It is administered by the Program on Employment and Disability in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University, in collaboration with the Washington Business Group on Health (WBGH), the Lewin Group, and the Society for Human Resource Management.

Ohio

Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System

Ohio Valley Center for Brain Injury Prevention and Rehabilitation
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Dodd Hall
480 West Ninth Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210
lamb-hart.1@osu.edu
http://www.ohiovalley.org

Principal Investigator: John D. Corrigan, PhD
614/293-3830
Public Contact: Gary Lamb-Hart, MDiv
Contact Phone: 614/293-3802; Fax: 614/293-8886

Project Number: H133A70032
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $344,975

Abstract: The Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Model System serves a population of two million living in 21 urban and rural counties in central and southern Ohio. It provides specialized care from emergency evacuation through community integration and lifelong living. The project is a collaborative effort of the Ohio State University Medical Center, Ohio Health's Grant Medical Center, and the Ohio Valley Center for Brain Injury Prevention and Rehabilitation.

A Model System of Brain Injury Care in the Philadelphia Region

MossRehab
1200 West Tabor Road, Korman Suite 213
Philadelphia, PA 19141
whyte@vm.temple.edu

Principal Investigator: John Whyte
215/456-9565
Contact Phone: 215/456-9597; Fax: 215/456-9514

Project Number: H133A70033
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $345,000

Abstract: This traumatic brain injury (TBI) model system of care serves people with TBI and their families from the tri-state area of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. This project is intended to enhance the existing service system by adding a longitudinal data acquisition component with an expanded quality-of-life content. This allows fuller examination of the outcomes achieved and factors that might improve those outcomes. In addition, a set of 11 important topics designed to improve future rehabilitation care includes studies of interventions for motor function, attention, vocational re-entry, and community integration, as well as projects designed to improve prediction of functional outcomes and rehabilitation charges, and to assess cost-effectiveness. The project is a collaboration among the trauma services of Temple University Hospital and Albert Einstein Medical Center, the Drucker Brain Injury Center at MossRehab, Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation, and Magee Rehabilitation Hospitals.

Risk Pathways in Maltreatment of Children with Disabilities

Allegheny University of Health Services
Allegheny Campus
Allegheny General Hospital
320 East North Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212-4772

Principal Investigator: Robert T. Ammerman, PhD
412/359-6801
Public Contact: Beth Boerger, Project Associate
Contact Phone: 412/359-4969; Fax: 412/359-4283

Project Number: H133A40007
Start Date: July 1, 1994 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $167,808; FY 95 $167,808; FY 96 $167,808; FY 97 (No-cost extension through 12/31/97)

Abstract: This project identifies factors implicated in physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect in children with disabilities; determines whether factors associated with disability are related to maltreatment; and elucidates the interrelationships among potential risk factors. A comprehensive assessment of social, family, parental, and child characteristics is administered to 225 maltreated children (ages 3-12 years) with disabilities and their parents. A stratified sampling strategy is used so that each type of maltreatment (physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse) and each of three age ranges (3-6, 7-9, 10-12) are equally represented. In order to examine whether children with disabilities are treated differentially by parents, the assessment also includes a sibling who is nearest in age to the index child with a disability. Structural equation modeling is employed to test specific hypotheses regarding the primary pathways to physical abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse, respectively. In addition, a cohort of 90 maltreated children without disabilities is being recruited. These subjects are matched to and contrasted with 90 subjects from the disability group on type of maltreatment, age, and gender.

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Model System for Burn Injury Rehabilitation

University of Texas
Southwestern Medical Center
Medical and Rehabilitation Department
5323 Hines Boulevard
Dallas, TX 75235
rholav@mednet.swmed.edu

Principal Investigator: Phala Helm
214/648-2288
Public Contact: Radha Holevanahalli
Contact Phone: 214/648-9540 or 214/648-3654; Fax: 214/648-8828

Project Number: H133A70023
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $295,000
Abstract: This project is a multidisciplinary, comprehensive, and coordinated system under which emergency, medical/surgical, rehabilitation, psychosocial, and vocational activities are addressed in all phases of care. To address the goal of prevention of secondary complications, the NTBRMS is conducting two site-specific studies: (1) comparing use of sustained stretching with and without paraffin and (2) comparing serial splinting with serial casting. To develop and evaluate rural outreach programs, the NTBRMS has established two quarterly clinics in rural areas of northeast Texas, and plans to initiate a third clinic in Fort Worth Texas. The NTBRMS conducts two collaborative research projects to develop and evaluate functional outcome measures: (1) development and validation of a new physical functional outcome tool and (2) assessment of the SF-36 as a measure of community integration and quality of life. The NTBRMS provides medical rehabilitation and psychosocial interventions for people with burn injury including children. Children must be incorporated into the existing service and data collection system. Interventions are evaluated by addressing several research questions. Also, children are evaluated by addressing outcomes that may vary as a function of the services they received or the compliance of their families with treatment.

Pediatric Burn Injury Rehabilitation Model System

University of Texas Medical Branch
301 University Boulevard
Galveston, TX 77555

Principal Investigator: David Herndon, MD
Contact Phone: 409/770-6731; Fax: 409/770-6919

Project Number: H133A70019
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $295,000
Abstract: This project, at Shriners Burn Institute, builds and analyzes a database of information on children and burns, including measures of cardiopulmonary function, physical growth and maturation, bone density, range of motion, activities of daily living, scar formation, reconstructive needs, and measures of psychosocial adjustment. Analysis determines areas that require improvement and measures of functional outcome that can be used in the evaluation of treatment methods. Additionally, the project improves outcomes by instituting and evaluating two modifications to current rehabilitation for children with large severe burn injuries. First, an intensive inpatient rehabilitation program includes rigorous active resistance exercise training and daily care directed by the complete medical and psychosocial rehabilitation team. Effectiveness is compared with functional outcomes achieved in traditional home-based programs. Second, the use of chronic growth hormone therapy is evaluated to increase growth, strength, bone density, function, and well-being. The project assesses current methods of treatment that subdue effects of scar formation. The project's Community Resources Training Program operates in conjunction with selected existing outreach clinics and school reintegration programs.

Reducing Risk Factors for Abuse Among Low-Income Minority Women with Disabilities

Baylor College of Medicine
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
3440 Richmond Avenue, Suite B
Houston, TX 77046
mnosek@bcm.tmc.edu

Principal Investigator: Margaret A. Nosek, PhD
Public Contact: Carol Howland
Contact Phone: 713/960-0505; Fax: 713/961-3555

Project Number: H133A60045
Start Date: September 30, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $250,000; FY 97 $250,000

Abstract: This project pursues strategies to reach women with disabilities at all stages of change in resolving abusive situations. To accomplish this purpose, the project has the following objectives: (1) identify risk factors for emotional, physical, and sexual abuse faced by women with disabilities; (2) assess the ability of rehabilitation and independent living counselors to identify women in abusive situations and refer them to appropriate community resources; (3) develop and test models for programs that reduce the risk of abuse for women with disabilities, particularly among women with disabilities from low-income, minority backgrounds where the incidence of abuse is the highest; and (4) establish an agenda for future research on women with disabilities using a national advisory panel. The project works not only with programs that help battered women, but also those that have contact with women with disabilities in various community contexts.

Traumatic Brain Injury Model System of TIRR

The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR)
1333 Moursund Avenue
Houston, TX 77030
whigh@bcm.tmc.edu

Principal Investigator: Walter M. High, PhD
Contact Phone: 713/666-9550; Fax: 713/668-5210

Project Number: H133A70015
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $345,000
Abstract: This project is developing and demonstrating a comprehensive, multidisciplinary rehabilitation services model system for people with traumatic brain injury (TBI). The project: (1) investigates the efficacy of alternative methods of service delivery interventions after inpatient rehabilitation discharge and after other postacute treatment pathways; (2) identifies and evaluates interventions, including those using emerging technology, that can improve vocational outcomes and community integration; (3) develops key predictors of rehabilitation outcome, including subjective well-being at hospital discharge and at long-term follow up; (4) determines the relationship between cost of care, specific treatment interventions, and functional outcomes; and (5) examines the implications of violence as a cause of TBI on treatment interventions, rehabilitation costs, and long-term outcomes. In carrying out these purposes, the project participates in clinical and systems analysis studies of the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems by collecting and contributing data on patient characteristics, diagnoses, causes of injury, interventions, outcomes, and costs, to a uniform, standardized national database. It participates in collaborative projects with other model system programs and coordinates research efforts with other NIDRR grantees that address TBI-related issues.

Assurance of Quality in Assistive Technology Delivery

RESNA
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1540
Arlington, VA 22209-1903
lvitaliti@resna.org

Principal Investigator: James R. Geletka, Executive Director
Public Contact: Lucy Trivelli Vitaliti, PhD
Contact Phone: 703/524-6686, ext. 310 (V); 703/524-6639 (TTY); Fax: 703/524-6630

Project Number: H133A30038
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $188,641; FY 94 $182,870; FY 95 $182,870; FY 96 (No-cost extension through 9/30/97); FY 97 (No-cost extension through 12/31/97)

Abstract: This project develops quality assurance guidelines of measurement and standards to: (1) determine the most appropriate technology for an individual user, and (2) evaluate the effectiveness of specific applications of technology as used by an individual for specific purposes. The project goal is to facilitate the development of a more consumer-responsive system within medical, educational, vocational rehabilitation, and consumer service-delivery models. It also develops tools to provide evaluators with the capacity to make objective appraisals of assistive technology (AT) and technology delivery systems. The project develops criteria that can assist consumers, providers, and payors in assessing the need for AT, and in defining goals and plans for intervention; defines and validates appropriate outcomes and methods by which one can ensure that quality outcomes are achieved on an ongoing basis; and uses state-of-the-art workshops for AT delivery as the basic approach to develop the content for criteria, outcome measures, and provider qualifications. The guidelines and tools are being revised using the state-of-the-art workshop technique, and the final product is being developed and disseminated.

HIV/AIDS and Disability

Thomas M. Hooton, MD
1001 Broadway, Suite 206
Seattle, WA 98122
pullrich@u.washington.edu; tylost@u.washington.edu

Principal Investigator: Thomas M. Hooton, MD
206/720-4226
Public Contact: Ty Lostutter, Research Coordinator
Contact Phone: 206/720-4332; Fax: 206/720-4204

Project Number: H133A50003
Start Date: September 30, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $174,942; FY 96 $174,942; FY 97 $139,248

Abstract: The project prepares population estimates and statistical profiles of the demographic, employment, and payor status of people infected with HIV using a clinic database and other local and national sources, including published literature. It documents the natural course of the disability consequences of HIV infection by assessing subjects' self-reported quality of life and by objective assessment of functioning and physical capacity over the course of three years. The project forms at least three five-to-ten-person focus groups composed of people infected with HIV who identify the best practices in rehabilitation, independent living, peer support programs, community mental health, job accommodations, and related services that have the most potential to assist adults with HIV/AIDS to maximize quality of life. The project also demonstrates and evaluates whether an individualized vocational rehabilitation program or an individualized exercise program has a beneficial effect on stabilizing or reversing the usual decline in functional and physical status.

University of Washington Burn Injury Rehabilitation Model System

University of Washington
Harborview Medical Center
Box 359796
325 Ninth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104
palacpac@u.washington.edu
http://weber.u.washington.edu/~engrav

Principal Investigator: Loren H. Engrav, MD
206/731-3209
Public Contact: Dolores Palacpac
Contact Phone: 206/731-2866; Fax: 206/731-3656

Project Number: H133A70014
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $295,000
Abstract: This model system has seven objectives: (1) to provide complete burn care from injury to discharge; (2) to conduct a research program in burn rehabilitation through a protocol to study the effects of pressure garments on burn wound healing; (3) to study the effect of various interventions on burn rehabilitation through a self-care system, a provider system, and a research protocol designed to improve compliance with splints and pressure garments; (4) to study the effect of various interventions on independent living and vocational rehabilitation through two interventions, including a case manager and reentry protocols; (5) to follow longitudinal data on burn survivors; (6) to participate in a national database; and (7) to disseminate the information obtained from this project to burn survivors, their families, and health care providers.

Understanding and Increasing the Adoption of Universal Design in Product Design

University of Wisconsin/Madison
Trace Research and Development Center
S-151 Waisman Center
1500 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI 53705-2280
gv@trace.wisc.edu
http://trace.wisc.edu

Principal Investigator: Gregg C. Vanderheiden, PhD
Public Contact: Rachael Bower
Contact Phone: 608/262-6966; Fax: 608/262-8848

Project Number: H133A60030
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $250,000; FY 97 $250,000
Abstract: This project: (1) identifies the factors that cause industry to practice, or not to practice, universal design of products; and (2) identifies ways that people outside companies can encourage and facilitate the practice of universal design of products on a more widespread basis. The project brings together experts who have been active in universal design from across the technology spectrum to work with industry in addressing these questions. Areas of expertise include housing and architecture, computers and electronic products, media and materials, telecommunications, and educational software.

2

REHABILITATION RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTERS

This program provides support for the Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers. The primary goals of these centers are:

- To conduct research targeted toward the production of new knowledge which will improve rehabilitation methodology and service delivery systems, alleviate or stabilize disabling conditions, and promote maximum social and economic independence.
- To institute related teaching and training programs to disseminate and promote the utilization of research findings, thereby reducing the usual long intervening delay between the discovery of new knowledge and its wide application in practice.

Research, training, and service are expected to be mutually supportive. Specifically, this synergy calls for research ideas to derive from service delivery problems, for research findings to be disseminated via training, and for new professionals to be attracted to research and service via training.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Secondary Complications in Spinal Cord Injury

University of Alabama/Birmingham
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
1717 Sixth Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35233-7330
lindsey@sun.rehabm.uab.edu
http://www.sci.rehabm.uab.edu/docs/rrtchome.htm

Principal Investigator: Amie B. Jackson, MD
205/934-3334 (V); 205/934-3330 (V); 205/934-4642 (TTY)
Public Contact: Linda Lindsey, Media Specialist
Contact Phone: 205/934-3283; Fax: 205/975-4691

Project Number: H133B30025
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $720,000; FY 94 $650,000; FY 95 $650,000; FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000

Abstract: The primary goal of this RRTC is to conduct high-quality basic and applied research that improves existing methods of care for people with spinal cord injury (SCI). Current RRTC research areas include urology, pressure ulcer healing, spasticity, psychosocial adjustment, obstetric/gynecologic complications, costs of rehospitalization, and pulmonary complications. The Center's training component disseminates RRTC research results to rehabilitation professionals and consumers with SCI in useable formats such as videotapes, audiotapes, written materials, journal articles, and short-term training programs.

American Indian Rehabilitation Research and Training Center

Northern Arizona University
Institute for Human Development
University Affiliated Program
American Indian Rehabilitation Research and Training Center
Box 5630
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5630
priscilla.sanderson@nau.edu
http://www.nau.edu/~ihd

Principal Investigator: Richard Carroll, PhD; Priscilla Lansing Sanderson, MS, CRC, Project Director
Contact Phone: 520/523-4791 (V); 520/523-1695 (TTY); Fax: 520/523-9127

Project Number: H133B30068
Start Date: September 26, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $275,000; FY 94 $638,000; FY 95 $799,834; FY 96 $818,133; FY 97 $649,271
Other Funding: FY 95 $176,907; FY 96 $120,000(RSA); FY 97 $188,739
Abstract: The goal of the AIRRTC at Northern Arizona University is to improve the quality of life for American Indians with disabilities through the conduct of research and training that results in culturally appropriate and responsive rehabilitation services, facilitates American Indian access to services, and increases the participation of American Indians in the design and delivery of rehabilitation services. Research and training are organized around four program core areas: (1) identify and facilitate effective and culturally appropriate rehabilitation services for American Indians with disabilities, (2) increase knowledge of high incidence/prevalence disabilities among American Indians, (3) develop and implement strategies to improve and maintain employment and independent living for American Indians with disabilities, and (4) promote the development of qualified American Indian researchers and service providers.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Rehabilitation of American Indians with Disabilities

University of Arizona
Native American Research and Training Center
1642 East Helen Street
Tucson, AZ 85719
http://www.ahsc.arizona.edu/fcm/nartc

Principal Investigator: Jennie R. Joe, PhD
Contact Phone: 602/621-5075 (V); 602/621-5035 (TTY); Fax: 602/621-9802

Project Number: H133B30058
Start Date: September 26, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $400,000; FY 94 $475,000; FY 95 $505,883; FY 96 $475,000; FY 97 $475,000
Abstract: This RRTC studies the rehabilitation needs of Native Americans with disabilities and designs and implements programs that meet these needs. The RRTC also designs and conducts culturally sensitive needs assessments and evaluations as determined by, or in cooperation with, people with disabilities. This project conducts rehabilitation workshops that identify and evaluate rehabilitation training needs, and provides training to rehabilitation service providers, researchers, managers, policy makers, and Native Americans with disabilities. The RRTC analyzes successful vocational rehabilitation (VR) outcomes for American Indians and facilitates the implementation of similar programs nationally. The project establishes a model rehabilitation program for Native Americans entering the VR system and a model independent living program for Native Americans with disabilities.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Persons Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

University of Arkansas
4601 West Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72205
dwatson@comp.uark.edu
http://www.uark.edu/depts/rehabres

Principal Investigator: Douglas Watson, PhD
Contact Phone: 501/686-9691 (V/TTY); Fax: 501/686-9698

Project Number: H133B60002
Start Date: September 30, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000
Abstract: The Center identifies the employability enhancement needs of the target population, and discovers basic knowledge about these problems from the perspective of individual and environment. The Center translates this information into guidelines for change, assessment, and interventions. The Center evaluates the appropriateness and effectiveness of these methods, disseminates this information to enhance service delivery, and evaluates the impact and implementation of these methods.

Arkansas

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Enhancing Employability of Individuals with Disabilities

University of Arkansas
Arkansas RRTC in Vocational Rehabilitation
P.O. Box 1358
Hot Springs, AR 71902
rfarley@comp.uark.edu
http://comp.uark.edu/~rehab/rtcvor.html

Principal Investigator: Roy C. Farley, EdD
Contact Phone: 501/624-4411 (V/TTY); Fax: 501/624-3515

Project Number: H133B30059
Start Date: August 5, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $650,000; FY 94 $650,000; FY 95 $747,594; FY 96 $725,000; FY 97 $725,000
Other Funding: FY 94 $244,449; FY 95 $75,000
Abstract: This RRTC identifies, develops, and evaluates models of improved service delivery related to employment and models of best practice in employability enhancement. It identifies, develops, and tests employability interventions and products and conducts training, information dissemination, and technical assistance activities on employability and employment. The following are priority areas: (1) a collaborative model to promote comprehensive and coordinated community-based employability services for people with disabilities, (2) career awareness and exploration services for youth with disabilities, (3) community-based employment and planning strategies for people with severe disabilities, (4) empowerment skills and services emphasizing consumer choice and advocacy, (5) new and emerging technology for improving vocational rehabilitation services, and (6) establishment of an information and technical assistance center in employment enhancement.

Aging with Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

Los Amigos Research and Education Institute, Inc. (LAREI)
800 West Annex
7601 East Imperial Highway
Downey, CA 90242
bkemp@almak.usc.edu

Principal Investigator: Bryan J. Kemp, PhD; Robert Waters, MD
Public Contact: Lilli Thompson, PT
Contact Phone: 562/401-7402; Fax: 562/401-7011

Project Number: H133B70011
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $650,000
Abstract: The Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Aging with Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) is devoted to understanding the unique problems people with spinal cord injury experience as they age. Topics of research include: the course of aging with SCI, cardiovascular and pulmonary aspects of aging with SCI, bone loss across ethnic groups, activities of daily living, employment, depression, and formal and informal care systems for people aging with SCI. The RRTC has several goals for education, training, dissemination, and utilization: to train current and future health, allied health, and rehabilitation professionals about aging with SCI; to train and develop rehabilitation research professionals in the area of aging with SCI; to have health and rehabilitation professionals adopt and use knowledge and treatment regimens developed in the RRTC; to disseminate information about aging with SCI to people with SCI and their families; and to train graduate students and medical students in advanced knowledge and techniques from studies about aging with SCI. Training and dissemination occurs through advanced and continuing education courses, local and national conferences, workshops, and the Internet.

Disability Statistics Rehabilitation Research and Training Center

University of California/San Francisco
Institute for Health and Aging
Box 0646, Laurel Heights
San Francisco, CA 94143-0646
barbara_wenger@quickmail.ucsf.edu; information_specialist@quickmail.ucsf.edu
http://dsc.ucsf.edu

Principal Investigator: Mitchell P. LaPlante, PhD
415/502-5210 (V/TTY)
Public Contact: Diana Stammerjohn, Program Coordinator; Barbara Wenger, Information Specialist
Contact Phone: 415/502-5217 (V/TTY); Fax: 415/502-5208

Project Number: H133B30002
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: David W. Keer
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $500,000; FY 94 $500,000; FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: The Center conducts research in the demography and epidemiology fields of disability and disability policy, including costs, employment statistics, health and long-term care statistics, statistical indicators, and congregate living statistics. Statistical information is disseminated through published statistical reports and abstracts, journals, professional presentations, and a publications mailing list. Training activities and resources (such as a predoctoral program) disseminate scientific methods, procedures, and results to both new and established researchers, policymakers, and other consumers, and assist them in interpreting statistical information. A National Disability Statistics and Policy Forum is conducted periodically to establish a national dialogue between people with disabilities and representative organizations, researchers, and policymakers.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Neuromuscular Diseases

University of California/Davis
MED: Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Davis, CA 95616-8655
mlbrewer@ucdavis.edu
http://disability.ucdavis.edu

Principal Investigator: Mark A. Wineinger, MD, Director; William M. Fowler Jr., MD, Co-Director
Contact Phone: 916/752-2903 (V); 916/752-3468 (TTY); Fax: 916/752-3468

Project Number: H133B30026
Start Date: September 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $650,000; FY 94 $648,471; FY 95 $650,000; FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000
Abstract: This project focuses on developing interventions to improve the lives of people with neuromuscular diseases (NMDs). Six research studies focus on aspects of impairment, disability, and disadvantage associated with NMDs: (1) physical performance and nutritional status; (2) evaluation and treatment of swallowing disorders; (3) dyspnea, respiratory control, and rehabilitation therapeutics; (4) employment opportunities and vocational rehabilitation; (5) educational mainstreaming of children and young adults; and (6) strategies to improve quality of life and community integration. Training is directed to the research training of current and future researchers. Information dissemination translates rehabilitation knowledge and technology to people with NMDs and their families, vocational rehabilitation counselors, educators, healthcare workers, researchers, and others.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center of the Pacific

San Diego State University Foundation
Interwork Institute
5850 Hardy Avenue, Suite 112
San Diego, CA 92182
dmosier@mail.sdsu.edu
http://interwork.sdsu.edu

Principal Investigator: Fred McFarlane, PhD
Public Contact: Kenneth Galea'i, Co-Director
Contact Phone: 619/594-8807 (V); 619/594-6406 (TTY); Fax: 619/594-4208

Project Number: H133B40034
Start Date: October 1, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $650,000; FY 95 $650,000; FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000

Abstract: This program truly values Pacific peoples--their cultures, practices, and societal foundations, including government systems and traditional "communal" and familial systems. The approach of this program is to build a local infrastructure of constituencies composed of individuals (consumers and service providers) and systems that deal with issues impacting people with disabilities in the Pacific Basin. The local infrastructure includes a resource-development process that uses research as a basis to develop the local network of identified individuals in the islands. The project encourages and challenges people with disabilities to develop the ability to determine their own destinies through research, training, technical assistance, and the dissemination of essential rehabilitation information.

NIDRR Program Directory 1997

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California

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with a Disability

Los Amigos Research and Education Institute, Inc. (LAREI)
Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center
7601 East Imperial Highway
Downey, CA 90242-4155
bkemp@almaak.usc.edu
http://www.usc.edu/dept/gero/RRTConAging

Principal Investigator: Bryan J. Kemp, PhD
Public Contact: Ed Cantrell, Education Coordinator
Contact Phone: 562/401-7402; Fax: 562/401-7011

Project Number: H133B30004
Start Date: August 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $600,000; FY 94 $600,000; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $600,000; FY 97 $600,000
Abstract: In ever-increasing numbers, people who acquired a disability in an earlier part of life are now reaching an advanced age. As they age, many people are developing new medical, functional, social, and psychological problems. Little is known about the etiology, consequences, or treatment of these problems. This RRTC investigates several of these problems and conducts training to help reduce the impact of these changes. Studies are under way that examine: (1) the natural course of aging in people with postpolio, cerebral palsy, rheumatoid arthritis, and stroke; (2) the physiological demands of mobility; (3) the benefit of training aging individuals in the use of in-home personal assistants; (4) the feasibility of using residential care facilities for older people who have a disability; (5) ways to maintain employment through the use of job modification; and (6) how federal and state policies need to change to facilitate access to assistive devices as people age. The training programs focus on medical, allied health, and social service personnel at all levels, from student through practicing professional. The project provides information to consumers through an extensive system of linkages to consumer organizations and publication in consumer-oriented periodicals.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Families of Adults with Disabilities

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Through the Looking Glass
2198 Sixth Street, Suite 100
Berkeley, CA 94710-2204
tlg@lookingglass.org
http://www.lookingglass.org

Principal Investigator: Megan Kirshbaum, PhD
Public Contact: Paul Preston, PhD
Contact Phone: 800/644-2666 (V/TTY); 510/848-1112 (V/TTY); Fax: 510/848-4445

Project Number: H133B30076
Start Date: November 1, 1993 **Length:** 48 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY93 400,000; FY 94 $400,000; FY 95 $400,000; FY 96 $400,000; FY 97 $400,000

Abstract: The Center's overall mission is to coordinate a multifaceted research, training, and dissemination program on families of adults with disabilities. This mission is addressed through the following projects: a national information and referral center for parents with disabilities, family members, and service providers; training modules for consumers and providers; technical assistance and consultation; and a national conference. The Center also oversees collaborative work between researchers and clinicians from a variety of agencies, universities, and professional programs on 12 research projects on various aspects of family life and adults with disabilities.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Independent Living and Disability Policy

World Institute on Disability
510 -16th Street, Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612-1500
simi@wid.org; jackie@wid.org
http://www.wid.org

Principal Investigator: Simi H. Litvak, PhD, OTR
510/251-4324
Public Contact: Jacqueline Gross
Contact Phone: 510/251-4318 (V); 510/208-9493 (TTY); 510/763-4100 (V-main switchboard); Fax: 510/763-4109

Project Number: H133B50005
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $440,000; FY 96 $440,000; FY 97 $440,000

Abstract: This RRTC conducts research and training and tests strategies to support the development of public policy in independent living, and enhance the effectiveness of people with disabilities in influencing policy. The Center's main topic areas include employment, return to work and economic security, the role of independent living centers, community assessment and change, housing, health, and transportation. Through research, training, policy analysis, and dissemination, the Center facilitates the development of tools and systems that empower people with disabilities to act on their own behalf and to create opportunities for people to become agents of change.

California

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Personal Assistance Services (PAS)

World Institute on Disability
510 -16th Street, Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612-1500
jackie@wid.org
http://www.wid.org

Principal Investigator: Simi H. Litvak, PhD, OTR
Public Contact: Jacqueline Gross
Contact Phone: 510/251-4318 (V); 510/208-9493 (TTY); 510/763-4100 (V-main switchboard); Fax: 510/763-4109

Project Number: H133B70008
Start Date: July 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: Activities of this project are designed to further the understanding that Personal Assistance Service (PAS) systems design can better promote the economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and full integration of people of all ages and disabilities into society. This is accomplished by exploring the models, policies, access to, and outcomes of personal assistance services, through (1) gathering perspectives of consumers, program administrators, policy makers, and personal assistants using a State of the States survey and database development; (2) a policy study on the impact of devolution; (3) a cost-effectiveness study; (4) a study of workplace PAS; and (5) a study on the supply of qualified PAS.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with Spinal Cord Injury

Craig Hospital
Research Department
3425 South Clarkson Street
Englewood, CO 80110
gale@craig-hospital.org
http://www.craig-hospital.org/rehab

Principal Investigator: Robert R. Menter, MD
303/789-8202 (V)
Public Contact: Kenneth A. Gerhart, Director of Training
Contact Phone: 303/789-8308 (V); 303/789-8575 (TTY); Fax: 303/789-8567

Project Number: H133B30040
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 48 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $600,000; FY 94 $600,000; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $600,000; FY 97 $600,000
Abstract: The project is conducting longitudinal research to document the natural consequences of aging with spinal cord injury (SCI) and to identify risk factors associated with increasing medical complications, functional limitations, psychosocial concerns, and escalating costs. The project is developing, implementing, and evaluating lifetime management and intervention strategies that minimize, delay, or enable people with SCI to cope better with the problems of aging with SCI. The project disseminates management and intervention strategies and insights gained from longitudinal research and implementation strategies.

Managed Health Care for Individuals with Disabilities

Medlantic Research Institute
National Rehabilitation Hospital Research Center
102 Irving Street Northwest
Washington, DC 20010
gxd3@mhg.edu

Principal Investigator: Gerben DeJong, PhD
Public Contact: Olga Elizabeth Hayes
Contact Phone: 202/466-1919; Fax: 202/466-1911

Project Number: H133B70003
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $499,969
Abstract: The purpose of this project is to provide national leadership on the major health service and health policy issues facing consumers with disabilities in managed health care arrangements. It will: (1) conduct research; (2) prepare special policy analyses; (3) host forums for discussion; (4) present expert testimony to Congress and governmental agencies; (5) publish in the health policy, consumer, and trade literature; (6) train graduate students with disabilities in health service research; and (7) disseminate findings to diverse consumer, provider, payer, academic, and policy-making audiences. On the state and national levels the project seeks to make managed care and the larger health care system more responsive to the needs of people with disabilities by acting as a catalyst for the development of new ideas. Program partners are the National Rehabilitation Hospital Research Center (NRH-RC) in Washington DC and the Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU) center in Houston Texas.

District of Columbia

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Access to Rehabilitation and Economic Opportunity

Howard University
Holy Cross Hall, Suite 100
2900 Van Ness Street Northwest
Washington, DC 20008
swalker@law.howard.edu; kturner@law.howard.edu
http://www.law.howard.edu/HURTC/HURTC.html

Principal Investigator: Sylvia Walker, EdD
Contact Phone: 202/806-8086 (V); 202/244-7628 (TTY); Fax: 202/806-8148

Project Number: H133B30093
Start Date: September 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $596,070; FY 94 $606,000; FY 95 $596,000; FY 96 $580,000; FY 97 $580,000
Other Funding: FY 94 $218,892; FY 95 $381,985; FY 96 $104,260; FY 97 $120,000
Abstract: Based on research findings, this project develops and tests effective rehabilitation service-delivery models that can be replicated by state and other rehabilitation agencies, in order to increase employment for African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans with disabilities.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health

University of South Florida
Florida Mental Health Institute
13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33612-3899
kutash@fmhi.usf.edu
http://lumpy.fmhi.usf.edu

Principal Investigator: Robert Friedman, PhD
Contact Phone: 813/974-4661 (V); 800/955-8771 (TTY); Fax: 813/974-6257

Project Number: H133B40023
Start Date: September 28, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $324,750; FY 95 $250,000; FY 96 $250,000; FY 97 $250,000
Other Funding: FY 94 $400,000 (Source: Center for Mental Health Services); FY 95 $400,000 (Source: CMHS); FY 96 $425,000 (Source: CMHS); FY 97 $815,000 (Source: CMHS)
Abstract: This project conducts research and training that improves the delivery of services to children and adolescents who have serious emotional disturbances and their families. Operating under the model that children and families are best served in coordinated, community-based systems of care, the RRTC conducts research in the areas of managed care, accountability, school-based mental health services, and documentation of the characteristics of this population. Training is provided in the areas of leadership and participatory evaluation approaches, as well as on children's mental health services research within a graduate program at the University of South Florida.

Illinois

National Research and Training Center on Psychiatric Disability

University of Illinois/Chicago
104 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60603-5901
http://www.psych.uic.edu/~rtc

Principal Investigator: Judith A. Cook, PhD
312/422-8180, ext. 19 (V)
Public Contact: Jessica A. Jonikas, MA
Contact Phone: 312/422-8180, ext. 18 (V); 312/422-0706 (TTY); Fax: 312/422-0740

Project Number: H133B50004
Start Date: September 30, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $400,000; FY 96 $400,000; FY 97 $400,000
Other Funding: FY 95 $145,000 (Source: Center for Mental Health Services); FY 97 $145,000
Abstract: The Center conducts basic evaluation and research, and trains rehabilitation, education, and mental health service providers, consumers, and families, in seven major areas: peer support, vocational rehabilitation, transition-age youth with mental illness, consumer service delivery, familial experiences, minority issues, and women's issues. Center staff also provides information for public-policy initiatives.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with Mental Retardation

University of Illinois/Chicago
Institute on Disability and Human Development
College of Associated Health Professions
1640 West Roosevelt Road
Chicago, IL 60608-6904
theller@uic.edu
http://www.uic.edu/orgs/rrtcamr/index.html

Principal Investigator: Tamar Heller, PhD; David Braddock, PhD
Contact Phone: 800/996-8845 (V); 312/413-1537 (V); 312/413-0453 (TTY); Fax: 312/996-6942

Project Number: H133B30069
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $666,944; FY 94 $670,017; FY 95 $619,996; FY 96 $619,992; FY 97 $619,992
Abstract: This project, a national resource of research, training, technical assistance, and dissemination, brings together the strengths of other major university research centers, national self-advocacy groups, and national organizations in the fields of aging and disabilities. The RRTC is committed to closing the gap between research and need by actively involving consumers and their families, addressing cultural diversity in its research and training activities, and by supporting dissemination activities that stimulate policy changes. The RRTC also maintains the Clearinghouse on Aging and Developmental Disabilities, that provides information and products on such research funded by NIDRR.

Illinois

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Enhancing Quality of Life of Stroke Survivors

Rehabilitation Institute Research Corporation
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
345 East Superior Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Principal Investigator: Elliot J. Roth, MD
Contact Phone: 312/908-4637; Fax: 312/908-6998

Project Number: H133B30024
Start Date: September 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $600,000; FY 94 $600,000; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $600,000; FY 97 $600,000
Abstract: The project is developing methods to prevent the occurrence and minimize the consequences of comorbid medical conditions in stroke patients during rehabilitation. It is evaluating methods of assessing, classifying, monitoring, and predicting some of the clinical consequences of stroke, particularly in the areas of higher-level cognitive and language functioning. It is evaluating the efficacy of procedures used to enhance social and community functioning, and studying the natural history of impairment, disability, quality of life after stroke, and the associations between each of those characteristics. The Center trains rehabilitation professionals in new approaches, innovations, and the specialized principles and practices of rehabilitative care of individuals with stroke. The RRTC also develops and studies the effects of an ideal method of providing education to caregivers of stroke patients, provides training in research principles and methods to rehabilitation professionals, and disseminates information of new developments in the area of stroke care and research to individuals with stroke and their families. Ultimately, through all these methods, the project enhances the quality of life of individuals with stroke.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Improving the Functioning of Families Who Have Members with Disabilities

University of Kansas
Beach Center on Families and Disability
3111 Haworth Hall
Lawrence, KS 66045
betsy@dole.lsi.ukans.edu
http://www.lsi.ukans.edu/Beach/Beachhp.htm

Principal Investigator: Ann Turnbull, EdD; H. Rutherford Turnbull, LLM
Contact Phone: 913/864-7600 (V); 913/864-7615 (TTY); Fax: 913/864-7605

Project Number: H133B30070
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $650,000; FY 94 $650,000; FY 95 $650,000; FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000
Abstract: The Beach Center connects all of its research, training, and dissemination activities to the theme of empowerment for families and family-professional collaboration. The Center's research involves the consumers of Center research in all phases: technology for inclusion (assistive technology), need-responsive programs (wrap-around services, friendships, transition mentoring), and effective parenting for all (fathers, parent-to-parent, child abuse and neglect). Center results are shared by training preservice and inservice personnel; cosponsoring and presenting at major national conferences; providing technical assistance to individuals and organizations at the local, state, and national levels who have an interest in the Center's 14 major research projects; writing textbooks for use in universities; and developing knowledge-based and family-friendly products. The Center produces unique *How-to* and *What Research Says About* fact sheets and a Beach Center newsletter, *Families and Disability*.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Independent Living (Underserved)

University of Kansas
4089 Dole Building
Lawrence, KS 66045
rtcil@kuhub.cc.ukans.edu
http://www.lsi.ukans.edu/rtcil/rtcbroc.htm

Principal Investigator: James F. Budde, EdD; Glen White, PhD
Contact Phone: 913/864-4095 (V/TTY); Fax: 913/864-5063

Project Number: H133B30012
Start Date: August 15, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $399,924; FY 94 $399,924; FY 95 $399,924; FY 96 $399,924; FY 97 $399,924
Abstract: The objectives of the RRTC are to use consumer-empowered teams to: (1) identify needs and facilitate research, relevant development, and product dissemination; (2) integrate existing independent living knowledge and technology; (3) assess needs; (4) adopt consumer control training interventions; (5) develop models to improve outreach and participation in administration and policy making; and (6) develop methods to evaluate the effectiveness of independent living programs in providing services to underserved populations. The project also provides information and referral; performs needs assessments, benefit cost analyses, and outcome studies; develops curricula/training materials; conducts conferences; conducts training seminars; performs systems analyses; conducts surveys; develops technology; and provides technical assistance. A seven-phase plan is being used to achieve the above objectives. The plan is facilitated through a needs-based research development, dissemination, and training system.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Rehabilitation for Persons with Long-Term Mental Illness

Boston University
Sargent College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation
930 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
http://web.bu.edu/SARPSYCH

Principal Investigator: William Anthony, PhD
Contact Phone: 617/353-3549 (V); 617/353-7701 (TTY); Fax: 617/353-7700

Project Number: H133B40024
Start Date: August 1, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $350,000; FY 95 $350,000; FY 96 $350,000; FY 97 $350,000
Other Funding: FY 94 $300,000 (Source: Center for Mental Health Services); FY 95 $300,000 (Source: CMHS)
Abstract: The mission of the RRTC is to help people with psychiatric disabilities achieve their goals of recovery through the development, demonstration, dissemination, and utilization of new psychiatric rehabilitation knowledge and technology. The project mission is carried out through: (1) evaluation of the effect of a combined supported education and supported employment model on consumer outcomes; (2) development, implementation, and evaluation of a model of personal assistance for people diagnosed with severe mental illness; (3) managers and professionals with psychiatric disabilities choosing, getting, and keeping white collar careers; (4) secondary and meta-analyses of the vocational and rehabilitation outcomes of people with severe mental illness; (5) evaluation of the impact of three demonstrations to train consumers and other constituents in overcoming the financial disincentives to employment; (6) identification of the indicators of recovery from mental illness utilizing consumers who have experienced the rehabilitation process; (7) documentation and description of effective strategies to overcome stigma and discrimination in the workplace and in training settings; and (8) identification of the indicators of recovery from mental illness utilizing consumers who have experienced the rehabilitation process. Results from this research are immediately disseminated to and utilized by practitioners, consumers, educators, administrators, and other researchers.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Rehabilitation and Childhood Trauma

New England Medical Center
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
750 Washington Street, 75K-R
Boston, MA 02111
http://www.nemc.org/rehab/homepg.htm

Principal Investigator: Marvin Brooke, MD
617/636-5622 (V)
Public Contact: Kathy Rower, Staff Assistant
Contact Phone: 617/636-5032 (V/TTY); 617/636-5031 (TTY); Fax: 617/636-5513

Project Number: H133B50006
Start Date: August 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $499,631; FY 94 $500,000; FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: This RRTC conducts ten research projects: (1) maintenance of the National Pediatric Trauma Registry; (2) application and adaptation of the International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities, and Handicaps (ICIDH) to the National Pediatric Trauma Registry; (3) production of a user-friendly *Data Book on Disabilities Resulting from Childhood Injuries*; (4) analysis of outcomes of injuries to children with preexisting medical conditions; (5) analysis of the impact of medical insurance and local rehabilitation resources on injured children; (6) examination of the causes and costs of severe injuries to children which occur at school; (7) study of head injuries to children while bicycling and during informal recreation; (8) evaluation of the natural history of injury recovery in children in a follow-up study; (9) development and evaluation of early rehabilitation interventions to decrease secondary complications in children after injury; and (10) coordination of family-centered service for educational and vocational needs. The project's training and dissemination program makes information available to those most directly affected by childhood trauma--children, their families or guardians, and the providers of services--with emphasis on developing training and tools to be replicated nationally. A special program is dedicated to addressing the unique needs of minority populations.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center: Promoting Placement

Children's Hospital
Training and Research Institute for People with Disabilities
300 Longwood Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
kiernanw@a1.tch.harvard.edu

Principal Investigator: William E. Kiernan, PhD
617/355-6506 (V); 617/355-6956 (TTY)
Public Contact: John Butterworth, PhD, Research Director
Contact Phone: 617/355-7074 (V); 617/355-6956 (TTY); butterworth@a1.tch.harvard.edu; Fax: 617/355-7940

Project Number: H133B30067
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 48 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $100,000; FY 94 $400,000; FY 95 $475,000; FY 96 $400,000; FY 97 $205,000 (Extension through 6/30/98)
Other Funding: FY 93 $214,365; FY 94 $94,875; FY 95 $75,000
Abstract: The RTC examines strategies, methods, and outcomes of placement models and approaches for people with disabilities. It investigates, trains, and disseminates findings in the following major areas: (1) examination and evaluation of placement models with a specific emphasis upon serving people with severe disabilities in the changing labor market; (2) documentation of the best placement and follow-up practices for individuals with severe disabilities; (3) identification of employer practices and concerns addressing the issues of corporate culture, co-worker supports, and approaches toward assisting people with disabilities in assuming a full and integrated role within the work setting; (4) development of strategies that enhance the use, knowledge, and modification of technology and other job accommodation techniques used by rehabilitation counselors and agencies; (5) documentation of types of placements and the nature of placements completed by vocational rehabilitation agencies through a review of national data on placement; and (6) provision of technical assistance to vocational rehabilitation agencies to enhance skills of rehabilitation counselors and rehabilitation education in the identification, design, and implementation of job-placement strategies.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Improving Community Integration for Persons with Mental Retardation

University of Minnesota
RRTC on Residential Services and Community Living
Institute on Community Integration
150 Pillsbury Drive Southeast
Minneapolis, MN 55455
lakin001@maroon.tc.umn.edu
http://www.ici.coled.umn.edu/ici

Principal Investigator: Charlie Lakin, PhD
612/624-6328
Public Contact: Mary Hayden, PhD
Contact Phone: 612/625-6046; Fax: 612/625-6619

Project Number: H133B30072
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $575,000; FY 94 $575,000; FY 95 $575,000; FY 96 $575,000; FY 97 $575,000
Other Funding: FY 97 $625,000

Abstract: This RRTC on community integration focuses on applied research, training (preservice, technical assistance, and curriculum development), and dissemination activities in each of five topical areas: (1) community living services and their financing; (2) options and opportunities for community inclusion; (3) social skills and interpersonal relationships; (4) self-determination and choice; and (5) recruitment, training, and retention of direct service personnel. The RRTC provides an assessment of demonstration projects. Three collaborative sites, the University of Minnesota, the University of Chicago at Illinois, and Syracuse University, are involved in the research and training activities. The project also produces a magazine entitled *IMPACT,* research syntheses in a *Policy Research Brief,* and a newsletter for direct service personnel entitled *Frontline Initiative.*

Rehabilitation Research and Training Project for Infants, Children, and Youth

University of Minnesota
Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability
Institute for Health and Disability
Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health Medical School
Box 721
421 Delaware Street Southeast
Minneapolis, MN 55455
instihd@tc.umn.edu
http://www.peds.umn.edu/Centers

Principal Investigator: Robert W. Blum, MD, PhD
Contact Phone: 612/626-4032 (V); 612/624-3939 (TTY); Fax: 612/626-2134

Project Number: H133B40019
Start Date: September 15, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $600,000; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $600,000; FY 97 $600,000
Abstract: The goal of this RRTC is to carry out an integrated set of research studies that focus on the psychosocial-developmental aspects of disability and chronic illness, service-delivery issues, and policy issues. The Center investigates integrated service-delivery systems for children in managed care, social development and resilience, developmental interventions, minority family concerns, financing issues in schools, and transition health care for adolescents. The Center conducts research, training, and dissemination activities in collaboration with the University of Washington, the University of California/San Francisco, McManus Health Policy Inc., the PACER Center, the Division of General Pediatrics, Developmental Evaluation Center, and Project School Care of Children's Hospital Boston.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision

Mississippi State University
P.O. Drawer 6189
Mississippi State, MS 39762
http://www.msstate.edu/dept/rrtc/blind.html

Principal Investigator: J. Elton Moore, EdD
Contact Phone: 601/325-2001 (V); 601/325-8693 (TTY); Fax: 601/325-8989

Project Number: H133B60001
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000
Other Funding: FY 96 $98,463
Abstract: The Center is conducting a series of research, training, and dissemination projects using a multidisciplinary strategy. The project works to investigate and document employment status, identify barriers to employment and techniques and reasonable accommodations to overcome these barriers, identify training needs in the Business Enterprise Program, and develop and deliver training programs. Training and dissemination activities include an information and referral center, national conferences, in-service training and technical assistance, advanced training for practitioners, advanced training in research, and publication and distribution of a variety of materials in accessible media.

Missouri Arthritis Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (MARRTC)

University of Missouri/Columbia
Multipurpose Arthritis Center
MA427 Health Sciences Center
One Hospital Drive, UMC
Columbia, MO 65212
susan_hazelwood@mailsvr.hsc.missouri.edu
http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/arthritis; http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/fibro

Principal Investigator: Gordon C. Sharp, MD
573/882-8730
Public Contact: Susan Hazelwood, Research Associate
Contact Phone: 573/882-8096; Fax: 573/884-5689

Project Number: H133B30039
Start Date: September 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $650,000; FY 94 $650,000; FY 95 $650,000; FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000

Abstract: This project conducts a coordinated and advanced multidisciplinary program of arthritis rehabilitation research in a clinical service setting. Disciplinary education and training, including graduate training to physicians, health professionals, and other potential rehabilitation personnel is provided to help them provide effective rehabilitation services to people with arthritis and musculoskeletal diseases. Research projects include: (1) medication and physical therapy treatment of primary fibromyalgia syndrome, (2) early interventions to prevent disability in juvenile arthritis, (3) arthritis patient disability and physical fitness levels before and after conditioning exercise intervention, (4) a computerized exercise performance support system for osteoarthritis rehabilitation, (5) depression management as a strategy for reducing disability in rheumatoid arthritis, and (6) a rehabilitation research database in musculoskeletal disease. The Center enhances education programs on arthritis care and rehabilitation and builds awareness through Missouri's Regional Arthritis Centers.

Montana

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Rural Rehabilitation Services

University of Montana
52 Corbin Hall
Missoula, MT 59812
muarid@selway.umt.edu

Principal Investigator: Tom Seekins, PhD
Contact Phone: 800/268-2743 (V/TTY, information service only); 406/243-5467 (V/TTY); Rural Disability Information Network [RUDI] BBS numbers: 406/243-2318; 800/961-9610 (In MT and WY); Fax: 406/243-2349

Project Number: H133B70017
Start Date: September 1, 1992 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Joyce Y. Caldwell
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $500,000; FY 93 $500,000; FY 94 $500,000; FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: This RRTC has the following objectives for improving rural rehabilitation services: (1) identify the employment and vocational rehabilitation service needs of people with disabilities in rural areas; (2) develop interventions to improve employment outcomes; (3) demonstrate rural entrepreneurial models; (4) identify issues in rural independent living and develop interventions to improve transportation, health care, housing, and accessibility; (5) coordinate with rural independent living centers to identify or design and test alternative models of delivery of rural rehabilitation services; (6) provide training in rural rehabilitation research and practice; (7) conduct an annual meeting on the state-of-the-art in rural employment and disability; (8) conduct an annual interactive conference on disability issues in rural America; and (9) disseminate research findings to rehabilitation service-delivery personnel.

Medical Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Multiple Sclerosis

New York Medical College
Department of Medicine
St. Agnes Hospital
303 North Street, Suite 203
White Plains, NY 10605

Principal Investigator: Charles R. Smith, MD
Contact Phone: 914/328-6410; Fax: 914/328-6408

Project Number: H133B30015
Start Date: August 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $600,000; FY 94 $600,000; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $600,000; FY 97 $600,000
Abstract: The Center conducts a coordinated program of research and education designed to facilitate the independence of people with multiple sclerosis (MS). The Center conducts research on: (1) enhancement of nerve conduction in partially demyelinated nerve fibers, (2) biofeedback to control bladder dysfunction, (3) analysis of movement disorders, (4) retention of employment in MS, (5) methods to improve the use of assistive technology among people with MS, (6) communication skills training for sexual dysfunction, (7) the impact of parental MS on children, (8) cognitive rehabilitation, and (9) approaches to long-term care in MS. Training and education includes programs for both professionals and lay people, such as workshops, seminars, articles, books, brochures, and tapes.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on the Community Integration of Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury

Mount Sinai School of Medicine
One Gustave L. Levy Place, Box 1240
New York, NY 10029
wayne_gordon@smtplink.mssm.edu

Principal Investigator: Wayne A. Gordon, PhD
Contact Phone: 212/241-7917 (V); 212/241-8978 (TTY); Fax: 212/348-5901

Project Number: H133B30038
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $600,000; FY 94 $600,000; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $600,000; FY 97 $600,000
Abstract: This project: (1) informs and educates diverse groups about specific aspects of traumatic brain injury (TBI) through education and training programs; (2) translates research findings into altered public policy that facilitates the community integration of people with TBI; (3) improves the access to services for people with TBI from underserved groups by networking with community agencies who provide services to diverse minority groups; (4) reduces the incidence of secondary disability, e.g., alcohol and substance abuse, and functional consequences of neurobehavioral and neurocognitive difficulties in people with TBI; (5) creates effective partnerships among people with TBI, professionals, policy makers, employers, etc., to facilitate community integration; (6) focuses research on assessment of difficulties associated with community living and on addressing functional consequences of neurobehavioral impairments; (7) develops methods to assess the presence of TBI in underserved populations; (8) addresses the needs of these people that support their community living; (9) actively involves consumers in all aspects of the RRTC; (10) uses focus groups, for both professionals and consumers, as the basis of training curriculum and program development; (11) ensures easy access to training programs; and (12) empowers participants in the program, both consumers and professionals, via their involvement in personal futures planning.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Drugs and Disability

Wright State University
School of Medicine
Substance Abuse Resources and Disability Issues
P.O. Box 927
Dayton, OH 45401-0927
dcmoore@desire.wright.edu

Principal Investigator: Dennis C. Moore, EdD
Public Contact: Jo Ann Ford, MRC, CCDC III
Contact Phone: 937/259-1384 (V/TTY); Fax: 937/259-1395

Project Number: H133B70018
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $499,369
Abstract: This project conducts epidemiological and evaluative studies of substance abuse and substance abuse services for consumers of state vocational rehabilitation (VR) programs. Activities addresses substance abuse as it co-exists with other disabilities; all components of the RRTC have been designed to interrelate and synergistically build on each other. The research components include longitudinal and multi-site studies to address more advanced research questions, and quantitative/qualitative methods or secondary analysis to investigate vocational rehabilitation issues for people with HIV and the relationship of social benefits on VR outcomes. The training components use a variety of materials, venues, and trainers in order to address needs within pre-and in-service populations. Training and dissemination components also include extensive utilization of distance learning media, especially use of the Internet to provide professionals and consumers with timely and relevant information. Stakeholder concerns and interests are addressed by several mechanisms, including a formal subcontract with the National Association on Alcohol, Drugs, and Disability. Multiple collaborations are delineated with federal agencies, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, as well as professional and consumer organizations, national clearinghouses, other RRTCs, and institutions of higher education.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health

Portland State University
Regional Research Institute
1912 Southwest Sixth Avenue (use only for express mail)
P.O. Box 751
Portland, OR 97207-0751 (97201 for express mail)
frieseb@rri.pdx.edu; exok@rri.pdx.edu
http://www.rtc.pdx.edu

Principal Investigator: Barbara Friesen, PhD
503/725-4040
Public Contact: Kaye Exo
Contact Phone: 503/725-5558; Fax: 503/725-4180

Project Number: H133B40021
Start Date: October 1, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $250,000; FY 95 $250,000; FY 96 $250,000; FY 97 $250,000
Other Funding: FY 94 $400,000 (Source: Center for Mental Health Services); FY 95 $400,000 (Source: CMHS); FY 97 $425,000 (Source: CMHS)
Abstract: RRTC activities include the development and evaluation of strategies that build the capacities of families, professionals, service providers, program administrators, and policy makers to establish services that are flexible and organized around individual families' needs.

The MRI/Penn Training Center on Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Persons with Long-Term Mental Illness

Matrix Research Institute
6008 Wayne Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144
workmri@aol.com
http://www.matrixresearch.com

Principal Investigator: Richard Baron, MA; Irvin D. Rutman, PhD; Trevor Hadley, PhD
Public Contact: Richard Baron, MA
Contact Phone: 215/438-8200 (V); 215/438-1506 (TTY); Fax: 215/438-8337

Project Number: H133B70007
Start Date: June 5, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: This RRTC focuses on four research areas: (1) improving the work incentives of the social security system, (2) linking client characteristics and program design to client outcomes, (3) exploring employer/employee relationships, and (4) examining vocational rehabilitation's relationship to behavioral managed care systems. It also focuses on four training issues: (1) improving rehabilitation research skills; (2) developing mental health/ vocational rehabilitation curricula for human services, social work, and nursing; (3) assessing training methodologies in the field; and (4) expanding online dissemination to the field.

Texas

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Community Integration for Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury

Baylor College of Medicine
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
One Baylor Plaza
Houston, TX 77030
khart@bcm.tmc.edu; drintala@bcm.tmc.edu

Principal Investigator: Karen A. Hart, PhD; Diana H. Rintala, PhD
Public Contact: Karen A. Hart, PhD
Contact Phone: 713/797-5946; Fax: 713/797-5982

Project Number: H133B40011
Start Date: January 24, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $650,000; FY 95 $650,000; FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000
Abstract: The mission of this RRTC is to: (1) conduct a program of research and training that develops and disseminates new knowledge and techniques to improve personal and psychological adjustment after spinal cord injury (SCI); (2) enhance family life, including involvement of family members in rehabilitation, and options for marriage, sexuality, reproduction, and parenting; (3) enhance participation in community life; (4) improve and maintain health status; (5) improve systems for long-term care (health and other support services) in the community; and (6) identify gender and cultural differences relevant to community integration of individuals with SCI. This RRTC houses the National Database of Educational Resources on SCI, collected from a nationwide network of rehabilitation facilities and NIDRR-funded projects on SCI.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Independent Living Center Management and Services

Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU) at The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR)
23235 Shepherd, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77019
ilru@ilru.org; lfrieden@ilru.org
http://www.ilru.org

Principal Investigator: Lex Frieden
Contact Phone: 713/520-0232 (V); 713/520-5136 (TTY); Fax: 713/520-5785

Project Number: H133B50003
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $600,000
Other Funding: FY 95 $100,000 (Source: Rehabilitation Services Administration); FY 96 $100,000 (Source: RSA)
Abstract: The goals of this project are to: (1) enhance management performance in independent living centers through improved management practices, developed and tested in research-based models and disseminated through training and technical assistance programs; (2) identify model programs to address diversity and inclusion centers; (3) improve the delivery of training and retraining programs for center staff through the use of innovative learning techniques; (4) examine strengths and weaknesses of various governing board structures; (5) improve service coordination between independent living centers, agencies, and programs providing employment services to people with disabilities; (6) document and improve operations of statewide independent living councils; (7) identify innovative strategies for center for independent living (CIL) collaboration with school programs to facilitate transition services for youth with disabilities; (8) analyze CIL funding and diversification patterns; (9) ensure coordination with training and technical assistance efforts funded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration; and (10) disseminate findings of the RRTC through research-based training and technical assistance to independent living centers, agencies, programs, and other relevant audiences through a multifaceted research utilization program.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Rehabilitation Interventions in Traumatic Brain Injury

The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR)
1333 Moursund Avenue
Houston, TX 77030
whigh@bcm.tmc.edu

Principal Investigator: L. Don Lehmkuhl, PhD
713/666-9550, ext. 230
Public Contact: Walter M. High, PhD
Contact Phone: 713/666-9550, ext. 266; Fax: 713/668-5210

Project Number: H133B40002
Start Date: February 1, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $650,000; FY 95 $650,000; FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $650,000
Abstract: The mission of this RRTC is to conduct a program of research and training that improves rehabilitation interventions in traumatic brain injury (TBI). Activities include: (1) conducting a controlled clinical study of the effects of rehabilitation on people with TBI by a model system of care; (2) identifying individual characteristics and environmental barriers that contribute to the exacerbation of secondary complications, particularly by individuals with TBI who are from minority backgrounds, and developing interventions to address them; (3) conducting studies to determine the reliability and validity of selected outcome measures; (4) developing and testing prognostic indicators of rehabilitation outcome, including early predictors of functional outcomes for all age groups; and (5) developing and evaluating new methods of prevention and treatment of the secondary medical, psychological, and neurobehavioral complications of TBI.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Improving Supported Employment Outcomes for Individuals with Developmental and Other Severe Disabilities

Virginia Commonwealth University
School of Education
1314 West Main Street, Box 842011
Richmond, VA 23284-2011
http://www.vcu.edu/rrtcweb

Principal Investigator: Paul Wehman, PhD
804/828-6772 (V)
Public Contact: Michael Barcus, Director of Training
Contact Phone: 804/828-1851 (V); 804/828-2494 (TTY); Fax: 804/828-2193

Project Number: H133B30071
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $648,610; FY 94 $723,674; FY 95 $723,674; FY 96 $723,646; FY 97 $723,674
Other Funding: FY 94 $73,508
Abstract: This RRTC serves as a national clearinghouse of information on supported employment; generates six major lines of research in areas of policy, local implementation, consumer implementation, program evaluation, vocational integration, and school-to-work transition; and provides a broad-based spectrum of training activities and products related to supported employment.

West Virginia

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Management of Information and Information Systems in State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies

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West Virginia University
806 Allen Hall
P.O. Box 6122
Morgantown, WV 26506-6122
majumder@rtc1.icdi.wvu.edu
http://www.icdi.wvu.edu

Principal Investigator: Ranjit Majumder, PhD
Contact Phone: 304/293-5313 (V/TTY); 304/766-2690 (Project Enable BBS); Fax: 304/293-6661

Project Number: H133B30074
Start Date: August 15, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 \$600,000; FY 94 \$600,000; FY 95 \$675,000; FY 96 \$676,807; FY 97 \$600,000

Abstract: The West Virginia RRTC's mission is to empower people with disabilities and individuals who serve people with disabilities through research and training related to information needs and information technology. The Center is developing a system for gathering, organizing, transforming, and presenting information. This system is designed to create information, inform consumers, and facilitate or enable decision-making. This system must address the objectives of the program or the areas that it intends to cover, meet the needs of specific characteristics and components, be versatile in terms of useability (different ways and forms), be readily useable by consumers with different levels of sophistication and training, be current and readily updatable, and be responsive in a timely manner to the needs of its various constituencies.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Improving Community-Based Rehabilitation Programs

University of Wisconsin/Stout
Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute
College of Education and Human Services
Menomonie, WI 54751
rtc_crp@uwstout.edu

Principal Investigator: Daniel C. McAlees, PhD
715/232-1389 (V)
Public Contact: Fred Menz, PhD, Director of Research
Contact Phone: 715/232-2236 (V); 715/232-5025 (TTY); Fax: 715/232-2251

Project Number: H133B30088
Start Date: August 18, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $994,524; FY 94 $600,000; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $600,000; FY 97 $600,000
Other Funding: FY 94 $74,997; FY 95 $150,000; FY 96 $75,000

Abstract: This RRTC conducts programmatic research, demonstration, training, and technical assistance to aid community-based rehabilitation programs in adapting and adopting demonstrated practices and methodologies that enhance achievement and sustainability of community integration and economic independence of people with disabilities. Program goals include: (1) increase chances that an individual is effectively integrated or reintegrated into the mainstream of the community; (2) increase the variety of options that individuals can use to access economic resources and employment with which to ensure their continued participation; and (3) demonstrate improvements in quality of community-based programs.

3

UTILIZATION PROJECTS

This program supports activities that will ensure that rehabilitation knowledge generated from projects and centers funded by the Institute and other sources is fully utilized to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Improving Access to Disability Data

InfoUse
2560 Ninth Street, Suite 216
Berkeley, CA 94710
ddata@infouse.com
http://www.infouse.com/disabilitydata

Principal Investigator: Susan Stoddard, PhD, AICP
Public Contact: Administrative Assistant
Contact Phone: 510/549-6520 (V); 510/549-6523 (TTY); Fax: 510/549-6512

Project Number: H133D50017
Start Date: August 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: David W. Keer
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $174,976; FY 96 $174,976; FY 97 $174,976
Abstract: InfoUse's Center on Access to Disability Data is the central source for disability statistics data and related technical reports in accessible, easy-to-understand, user-friendly formats. The Center provides this information to businesses, the media, urban planners and policymakers, and the disability community. The first major product, the *Chartbook on Disability in the United States, 1996,* provided updated statistical information on a range of disability topics. Material for the *Chartbook* series and related fact sheets are available to the public in a variety of published and electronic formats, including print and electronic media. The Center's Web site serves as a source for electronic documents, includes guidelines for accessible Web publishing, and provides links to major national data sources including data sites developed by other NIDRR grantees and by major national disability data suppliers.

International Disability Exchanges and Studies (IDEAS) Project 2000

World Institute on Disability
510 -16th Street, Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612-1500

Principal Investigator: Kathy Martinez
Contact Phone: 510/763-4100 (V); 510/208-9493 (TTY); Fax: 510/763-4109

Project Number: H133D40028
Start Date: October 1, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Paul R. Ackerman, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $554,158; FY 95 $454,000; FY 96 $454,000; FY 97 $454,000
Abstract: The Project enhances the impact of international activities on the lives of Americans with disabilities and the rehabilitation community in the areas of technology transfer, women's issues, employment, and independent living. It increases the participation of the U.S. disability community in significant, international research projects and policy debates. This year the project sponsored the International Leadership Forum for Women with Disabilities that hosted 620 women with disabilities from 83 countries. The research methodology used helps develop and test several approaches to international study. Project outcomes include: (1) an international comparison and evaluation of employment policies in the United States and other select countries; (2) a functioning, international network as a model of wheelchair technology transfer and improved techniques in self care for people with spinal cord injuries; (3) tested training modules to help women with disabilities improve their status; (4) analysis of various interpretations of independent living in different countries; (5) operational databases on specific content areas and domestic sites of excellence for international visitors; and (6) targeted dissemination of information results of above activities.

ABLEDATA Database Program

Macro International, Inc.
8455 Colesville Road, Suite 935
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3319
abledata@macroint.com
http://www.abledata.com

Principal Investigator: Lynn Halverson
301/572-0477 (V)
Public Contact: Katherine Belknap
Contact Phone: 800/227-0216 (V); 301/608-8998 (V); 301/608-8912 (TTY); Fax: 301/608-8958

Project Number: HN96015001
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $269,522; FY 97 $269,522

Abstract: The project maintains and expands the ABLEDATA database, develops information and referral services that are responsive to the special technology product needs of consumers and professionals, and provides the data to major dissemination points to ensure wide distribution and availability of the information to all who need it. The ABLEDATA database contains information on more than 23,000 assistive devices, both commercially produced and custom made. Requests for information are answered via telephone, mail, electronic communications, or in person.

Maryland

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)

KRA Corporation
8455 Colesville Road, Suite 935
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3319
odum@kra.com
http://www.naric.com/naric

Principal Investigator: Mark X. Odum
Public Contact: Information Specialists
Contact Phone: 800/346-2742 (V); 301/588-9284 (V); 301/495-5626 (TTY); Fax: 301/587-1967

Project Number: HN970020
Start Date: February 1, 1997 **Length:** 22 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $770,928
Abstract: The National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) maintains a research library of more than 51,000 documents and responds to a wide range of information requests, providing facts and referral, database searches, and document delivery. Through telephone information referral and the Internet, NARIC disseminates information gathered from NIDRR-funded projects, other federal programs, and from journals, periodicals, newsletters, films, and videotapes. NARIC maintains REHABDATA, a bibliographic database on rehabilitation and disability issues, both in-house and on the Internet. Users are served by telephone, mail, electronic communications, or in person.

National Resource Center on Community Integration for People with Mental Retardation

Syracuse University
Center on Human Policy
805 South Crouse Avenue, Room 101
Syracuse, NY 13244-2280
thechp@sued.syr.edu
http://soeweb.syr.edu/thechp

Principal Investigator: Steven J. Taylor, PhD
315/443-3851
Public Contact: Bonnie Shoultz, Associate Director; Rachel A. Zubal, Information Coordinator
Contact Phone: 315/443-4323 (V); 315/443-4355 (TTY); Fax: 315/443-4338

Project Number: H133D50037
Start Date: September 30, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $400,000; FY 96 $400,000; FY 97 $400,000
Abstract: This project assists in meeting the challenges involved in helping people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities to obtain their full citizenship rights. The Center: (1) operates an information clearinghouse on community integration; (2) disseminates a broad range of resource information targeted to people with developmental disabilities, family members, professionals, policy makers, and service providers; (3) provides training, consultation, and technical assistance to enable organizations and individuals to use, implement, or adapt innovative policies and practices to facilitate community inclusion; (4) offers assistance and support to self advocates becoming empowered, state and local providers, developmental disability councils, and protection and advocacy agencies; (5) supports academies sponsored by the President's Committee on Mental Retardation (PCMR); and (6) conducts workshops in cooperation with TASH and the American Network on Community Options and Resources (ANCOR). Through national searches, literature reviews, and case studies, the Center identifies and documents innovative policies and practices for institutional closure, family-centered support services, home ownership, self-directed support services, and social relationships and community participation.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research (NCDDR)

Southwest Educational Development Laboratory
211 East Seventh Street, Suite 400
Austin, TX 78701-3281
lharris@sedl.org
http://www.ncddr.org

Principal Investigator: John D. Westbrook, PhD
Public Contact: Lin Harris, Information Services Technician
Contact Phone: 800/266-1832 (V/TTY); Fax: 512/476-2286

Project Number: H133D50016
Start Date: August 1, 1995 **Length:** 48 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $540,739

Abstract: This project provides information and technical assistance to NIDRR grantees in identifying and improving dissemination strategies designed to meet the needs of their target audience. The project also analyzes and reports on dissemination trends relevant to disability research. Task force and material development activities address multicultural factors that influence dissemination and utilization. This project conducts ongoing informational networking through a variety of approaches, including an interactive World Wide Web site highlighting events and other information about specific NIDRR grantees, the production of quarterly issues of *The Research Exchange,* and in-person and online technical assistance support.

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REHABILITATION ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTERS

This program provides support for the Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers to conduct programs of advanced research of an engineering or technical nature in order to develop and test new engineering solutions to problems of disability. Each center is affiliated with a rehabilitation setting, which provides an environment for cooperative research and the transfer of rehabilitation technologies into rehabilitation practice. The centers' additional repsonsibilities include developing systems for the exchange of technical and engineering information and improving the distribution of technological devices and equipment to individuals with disabilities.

California

Applications of Technology to the Rehabilitation of Children with Orthopedic Disabilities

Los Amigos Research and Education Institute, Inc. (LAREI)
Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center
12841 Dahlia Street, Building 306
Downey, CA 90242
info@ranchorep.org
http://www.ranchorep.org

Principal Investigator: Donald McNeal, PhD; Yoshio Setoguchi, MD
Contact Phone: 562/401-7994 (V); 562/803-4533 (TTY); Fax: 562/803-6117

Project Number: H133E50006
Start Date: November 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: This RERC's program of research and development is primarily conducted at Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center, with projects at Shriner's Hospital, Los Angeles, and Claremont Graduate School, Claremont California. The grant award provides support for five research and development projects. One focuses on body-powered hands for young children with below-elbow amputations, and another produces an improved mobile arm support for children with flaccid paralysis of the shoulder and elbow flexor muscles. Children with myelomeningocele are the focus of two other projects, because of the inherent difficulties in bracing this population; innovations in orthotic design that result from these two projects have wide application to children with spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy, Guillain-Barre syndrome, and other diseases resulting in paresis or paralysis of the lower extremities. The final project goal is to solicit input from children and family members about attitudes toward prosthetic and orthotic equipment, current systems of service delivery, and the cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic factors that affect acceptance and use of assistive devices.

Smith-Kettlewell Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center

Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute
2232 Webster Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
brabyn@skivs.ski.org
http://www.ski.org/rerc

Principal Investigator: John A. Brabyn, PhD
415/561-1658
Contact Phone: 415/561-1620; Fax: 415/561-1610

Project Number: H133E50001
Start Date: June 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $600,000; FY 97 $600,000
Abstract: This RERC develops and evaluates new technology and methods for infant vision screening; orientation and navigation; described video; access to products; displays and electronic information; deaf-blind communication; and other problems faced by people who are blind, have visual impairments, or have multisensory loss.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center in Augmentative Communication

Applied Science and Engineering Laboratories
University of Delaware
duPont Hospital for Children
1600 Rockland Road
P.O. Box 269
Wilmington, DE 19899
rerc-aac@asel.udel.edu
http://www.asel.udel.edu

Principal Investigator: Richard A. Foulds, PhD
Public Contact: Julia Mercier, Information and Outreach Coordinator
Contact Phone: 302/651-6830 (V); 302/651-6834 (TTY); Fax: 302/651-6895

Project Number: H133E30010
Start Date: June 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $699,920; FY 94 $699,920; FY 95 $774,920; FY 96 $699,920; FY 97 $699,920
Abstract: Research in the field of augmentative communication is divided into five themes: language, speech, interface, systems, and information. Specific projects within each of the first four themes are designed to enhance accessibility of communication for individuals with communication disabilities. The project serves as a dissemination service for information on augmentative and alternative communication. All projects are designed so that technology transfer can be implemented as quickly and effectively as possible so that people with disabilities can pursue their educational, vocational, and independent living goals.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers

Delaware

Rehabilitation Robotics to Enhance the Functioning of Individuals with Disabilities

Applied Science and Engineering Laboratories
University of Delaware
duPont Hospital for Children
1600 Rockland Road
P.O. Box 269
Wilmington, DE 19899
foulds@asel.udel.edu
http://www.asel.udel.edu

Principal Investigator: Richard A. Foulds, PhD
Public Contact: Julia Mercier, Information and Outreach Coordinator
Contact Phone: 302/651-6830 (V); 302/651-6834 (TTY); Fax: 302/651-6895

Project Number: H133E30013
Start Date: June 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $699,976; FY 94 $699,742; FY 95 $774,730; FY 96 $699,652; FY 97 $699,652

Abstract: Research in the field of rehabilitation robotics focuses on interfaces, design and application, and motor control. Information and dissemination is another aspect of this project. Within its research focus, the RERC conducts many interdisciplinary research and information projects. The RERC's research and information activities are constituent-oriented and include implementation of a Consumer Innovation Laboratory. This lab includes consumers in the engineering design and fabrication of robotic devices to aid people with disabilities.

District of Columbia

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Universal Telecommunications Access

Gallaudet University
Technology Assessment Program
800 Florida Avenue Northeast
Washington, DC 20002
jeharkins@gallaudet.edu
http://tap.gallaudet.edu/RERC_UTA.htm

Principal Investigator: Judith Harkins, PhD (Gallaudet/UTA); Gregg C. Vanderheiden, PhD (Trace/UTA); Betsy Bayha (WID/UTA)
Public Contact: Judith Harkins, PhD
Contact Phone: 202/651-5257 (V/TTY); Fax: 202/651-5476

Project Number: H133E50002
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 48 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: This RERC conducts research and engineering activities with the overall goal of improving the accessibility of emerging telecommunications systems and products. The Center moves forward the available telecommunications knowledge base for access issues confronting people with all types of disabilities. The program areas of the RERC are: (1) systems engineering analyses; (2) telecommunications access research, focusing on needs assessment and development of design solutions; (3) universal design specification and review, aimed at developers of products and services; (4) development of telecommunications standards that include accessible features; (5) telecommunications applications for increased independence; and (6) knowledge utilization and dissemination. The RERC combines expertise from Gallaudet University, the Trace Research and Development Center at the University of Wisconsin, and the World Institute on Disability (WID) with the expertise of the telecommunications industry through the active involvement of two noted telecommunications consultants, Richard P. Brandt and Dale Hatfield.

Illinois

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Prosthetics and Orthotics

Northwestern University
Rehabilitation Engineering Research Program and Prosthetics Research Laboratory
345 East Superior Street, Room 1441
Chicago, IL 60611
reiu@nwu.edu; d-childress@nwu.edu
http://www.repoc.nwu.edu

Principal Investigator: Dudley S. Childress, PhD
312/908-8560
Public Contact: Resource Unit Help Line
Contact Phone: 312/908-6524; Fax: 312/908-6526 (Fax/TTY)

Project Number: H133E30007
Start Date: May 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $700,000; FY 94 $700,000; FY 95 $700,000;; FY 96 $700,000; FY 97 $700,000
Abstract: Activities of the Center include material science studies and applications in limb prosthesis and orthoses, biomechanical characterizations and functional design of prostheses and orthoses, state-of-the-art studies that delineate the status of the field and help organize and plan for the advancement of prosthetics and orthotics, and an information and education resource service.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Modifications to Worksites and Educational Settings

Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas
5111 East 21st Street
Box 8217
Wichita, KS 67208-0217
leslie@ie.twsu.edu
http://www.engr.twsu.edu/cpr-wsu

Principal Investigator: John H. Leslie Jr., PhD
316/652-1551 (V)
Contact Phone: 316/688-1888 (V/TTY); Fax: 316/688-5687

Project Number: H133E30027
Start Date: June 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $700,000; FY 94 $700,000; FY 95 $700,000; FY 96 $700,000; FY 97 $700,000
Abstract: This Center's focus is on the use of technology in vocational and educational environments and how it can be used to enhance the personal autonomy of people with severe disabilities. Currently, the Center consists of six projects, including: (1) the development of employment-related behaviors in students with disabilities, (2) information dissemination, (3) a PC-based "expert system" to develop vocational rehabilitation strategies, (4) participatory worksite accommodation, (5) design of a multimedia inspection station, and (6) actual worksite modifications.

New York

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Assistive Technology for Older Persons with Disabilities

State University of New York (SUNY)/Buffalo
Center for Assistive Technology
515 Kimball Tower
Buffalo, NY 14214
wmann@acsu.buffalo.edu
http://wings.buffalo.edu/ot/cat/rerca.htm

Principal Investigator: William C. Mann, PhD
Public Contact: Jennifer B. Weir, Information Coordinator
Contact Phone: 800/628-2281; Fax: 716/829-3217

Project Number: H133E60006
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: Activities of the RERC focus on research, assistive device development, education, and information relating to assistive technology for older people in the home and beyond the home. The projects of the RERC fall into four major areas: (1) research: ten projects address assessments in the home and community, issues for minority elders, highly problematic device categories, clinical trials of effectiveness, and managed care work issues; (2) device development: six projects, including devices addressing automobiles, obesity, mobility, balance, stairs, and public seating; (3) education: four projects addressing professional students, graduate students, and rehabilitation and aging service professionals; and (4) information: ten project areas, including a "Helpful Products" series of videos and booklets, training manuals, resources for hotel and motel guests, product information, national conferences, newsletter inserts, a World Wide Web site, monograph series, resource sourcebook, and a resource phone line.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Hearing Enhancement and Assistive Devices

The Lexington Center, Inc.
Research Division
30th Avenue and 75th Street
Jackson Heights, NY 11370
research@lexnyc.org
http://idt.net/~reslex

Principal Investigator: Harry Levitt
718/899-8800, ext. 230
Public Contact: Matthew H. Bakke
Contact Phone: 718/899-8800 (V); 718/899-3030 (TTY); Fax: 718/899-3433

Project Number: H133E30015
Start Date: June 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $624,788; FY 94 $624,788; FY 95 $624,788; FY 96 $624,788; FY 97 $624,788
Abstract: The RERC on Hearing Enhancement and Assistive Devices is designed to harness emerging technology to accommodate the needs of workers and others with hearing loss, and to disseminate related information in a form that is understandable to consumers, service providers, employers, and community leaders. These goals are accomplished by: (1) developing and evaluating improved cost-effective technological aids for each of the target populations identified; (2) developing and evaluating improved instrumentation for detecting hearing loss at an early age; (3) providing improved access to modern telecommunications; (4) developing and evaluating specialized technology for community, home, and work environments; and (5) pursuing an active program of dissemination and training to ensure effective utilization of these technological aids.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Technology Evaluation and Transfer (RERC-TET)

State University of New York (SUNY)/Buffalo
Center for Assistive Technology
515 Kimball Tower
Buffalo, NY 14214
joelane@acsu.buffalo.edu
http://cosmos.ot.buffalo.edu/aztech.html

Principal Investigator: Joseph P. Lane, MBPA
Public Contact: John H. Stone, PhD
Contact Phone: 716/829-3141 (V); 800/628-2281 (TTY); Fax: 716/829-3217

Project Number: H133E30023
Start Date: September 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $1,500,000; FY 95 $1,500,000; FY 96 $1,500,000; FY 97 $1,500,000
Abstract: This project solicits new technologies and prototype inventions from individuals and research centers for evaluation. Promising devices are commercialized through manufacturers. The evaluation program is available to companies on a fee-basis through Aztech, Inc., a nonprofit company run by people with disabilities. The RERC-TET is also establishing consumer requirements for ideal devices and comparing existing products to the ideal for device improvement.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Accessible and Universal Design in Housing

North Carolina State University School of Design
Center for Universal Design
Box 8613
219 Oberlin Road
Raleigh, NC 27695-8613
cud@ncsu.edu
http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/design/cud

Principal Investigator: Ronald L. Mace, FAIA
Public Contact: Lawrence H. Trachtman
Contact Phone: 800/647-6777 (V/TTY, information requests only); 919/515-3082 (V/TTY); Fax: 919/515-3023

Project Number: H133E40003
Start Date: July 1, 1994 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $585,157; FY 95 $515,087; FY 96 $515,087; FY 97 $515,087
Abstract: The RERC's mission is to: (1) conduct research in documenting problems in housing for people with disabilities; (2) identify or generate and test solutions to documented problems; (3) demonstrate the general utility of solutions to documented problems; and (4) conduct training to address skill acquisition, knowledge diffusion, and general awareness of issues related to housing for people with disabilities. The Center also provides information and referral services to address identified needs through development and dissemination of publications and other information materials and referral to other organizations and agencies who can assist with specific information requests. The Center's audience includes designers, contractors, developers, financial providers, consumer advocates, and users of residential environments.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center for Quantification of Physical Performance

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Ohio State University
1036 Dodd Hall
480 West Ninth Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210-1290
johnson.32@osu.edu
http://www.ortho.ohio-state.edu/RERC/RERC.html

Principal Investigator: Sheldon R. Simon, MD
Contact Phone: 614/293-3808 (V/TTY); Fax: 614/293-4834

Project Number: H133E30009
Start Date: July 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $699,128; FY 94 $699,461; FY 95 $700,000; FY 96 $700,000; FY 97 $700,000
Abstract: This Center hopes to improve direct evaluation of the merits and deficiencies of different modes of therapeutic intervention. Research is conducted on the development and evaluation of methods and instrumentation that quantify measurable aspects of the patient's prior and post-therapeutic condition. Five areas of concentration: (1) developing, improving, and refining instrumentation to assess human functional performance where it is necessary; (2) developing and establishing a mechanism by which a data registry can be established for a variety of diseases affecting function; (3) developing computer models to assist in this understanding; (4) developing computer techniques to understand and teach methods of analysis in objective ways; and (5) developing a system of technical and engineering information exchange.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Technology to Improve Wheelchair Mobility

University of Pittsburgh
Rehabilitation Technology Program (RTP)
Forbes Tower, Suite 5044
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
dhobson@pitt.edu
http://128.147.90.92/rtp/RERCHP.html

Principal Investigator: Douglas A. Hobson, PhD; Clifford Brubaker, PhD
Contact Phone: 412/647-1273 (V); 412/647-1291 (TTY); Fax: 412/647-1277

Project Number: H133E30005
Start Date: August 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $700,000; FY 94 $699,996; FY 95 $700,000; FY 96 $700,000; FY 97 $700,000
Abstract: The mission of the RERC on Technology for Improved Wheelchair Mobility is the development, evaluation, and dissemination of technology and information related to wheelchairs, wheelchair seating, and occupant safety while using wheelchairs as a seat in a transportation vehicle. This mission is accomplished by implementation of 18 research tasks spanning the above three areas of need and is supported by information dissemination, evaluation, technology transfer, and educational activities. Each major activity has been designed to include participation by both users and prescribers of wheelchair technology. Dissemination activities, including conferences, publications, bibliographies, Web pages, and exhibits make the RERC a prime source of information on wheelchair-related technology. The RERC operates in parallel with the service program located in its Center for Assistive Technology.

Vermont Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center for Low Back Pain

University of Vermont
Vermont Back Research Center
One South Prospect Street
Burlington, VT 05401
backtalk@salus.med.uvm.edu
http://salus.med.uvm.edu/~backtalk

Principal Investigator: Martin H. Krag, MD
Contact Phone: 800/527-7320 (V/TTY); 802/656-4582 (V/TTY); Fax: 802/660-9243

Project Number: H133E30014
Start Date: August 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Robert J. Jaeger, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $700,000; FY 94 $700,000; FY 95 $700,000; FY 96 $700,000; FY 97 $700,000
Abstract: The Vermont RERC improves the employability of people with back disorders and back disability by developing and testing assistive technology. Engineering projects include studies of lifting, posture, seating, vibration, and materials handling in connection with back pain and disability. Applied research projects include the testing of rehabilitation engineering products, evaluation of exercise programs, and the development of a statewide model program to hasten return to work of people with back injuries. The Center's Information Services Division provides toll-free assistance in locating research and rehabilitation programs, as well as bibliographic searching and fact finding. The Center also maintains an Electronic Discussion Group: BACKS-L (Send subscription request to listproc@list.uvm.edu; body of message should read: subscribe backs-l *your name*).

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Adaptive Computers and Information Systems

University of Wisconsin/Madison
Trace Research and Development Center
Waisman Center, S-151
1500 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI 53705
info@trace.wisc.edu
http://trace.wisc.edu

Principal Investigator: Gregg C. Vanderheiden, PhD
608/262-6966 (V)
Public Contact: Rachael Bower, Information Outreach Coordinator
Contact Phone: 608/263-5697 (V); 608/263-5408 (TTY); Fax: 608/262-8848

Project Number: H133E30012
Start Date: June 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $700,000; FY 94 $700,000; FY 95 $700,000; FY 96 $700,000; FY 97 $700,000

Abstract: This RERC is focused on maximizing the number of people with disabilities who are able to access directly and use the next generation of electronic devices and information systems, either with or preferably without assistive technologies. This RERC makes all electronic products and systems more accessible to individuals with the full range of type, degree, and combination of disability, such as low vision, blindness, hearing impairment, deafness, deaf-blindness, physical disabilities, cognitive disabilities, and language disabilities. Electronic products include dedicated products (e.g., phones, faxes, ATMs, etc.), general purpose computers and operating systems, and access to information systems (e.g., Internet, television set-top boxes, kiosks, electronic directories, and information phones). The work of the Center includes basic research into more flexible interfaces; extensions to human interfaces of existing computers, operating systems, and information systems; development of design guidelines; development of prototype systems and simulations; support of industry; development of consumer awareness and education materials; training programs; and joint service-delivery programs.

5

FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowships, named for the late Mary E. Switzer, build future research capacity. NIDRR makes awards on two levels: Distinguished Fellowships go to individuals of doctorate or comparable academic status who have had seven or more years of experience relevant to rehabilitation research. Merit Fellowships are given to persons in earlier stages of their research careers.

Illinois

Quality Indicators for Comparative Analysis of Stroke Outcomes

Robin Turpin, PhD
390 South Western Avenue
Bartlett, IL 60103

Principal Investigator: Robin Turpin, PhD
Contact Phone: 312/908-4078; Fax: 312/908-4300

Project Number: H133F70014
Start Date: June 1, 1997 **Length:** 12 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $40,000

Abstract: The goal of this study is to develop a set of quality indicators to assess the impact of medical rehabilitation services on the lives of stroke survivors. Development involves the World Health Organization's *International Classification of Impairments, Disability, and Handicaps* (ICIDH), as well as quality of life literature. The indicators assess the impact of rehabilitation services from health status to community integration and quality of life. Such a set of quality indicators would be useful and feasible for a wide variety of care across settings and providers.

Development and Communication of Standards for Clinical Service and Research in the Analysis of Gait Data in Children with Developmental Disabilities

Loretta Knutson, PhD, PT, PCS
6404 Glenwood Road
Omaha, NE 68132

Principal Investigator: Loretta Knutson, PhD, PT, PCS

Project Number: H133F70023
Start Date: August 1, 1997 **Length:** 12 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $40,000
Abstract: This project seeks to improve dissemination of standards for correct gait analysis. Correct gait analysis is fundamental to clinical decision-making regarding surgery, bracing, or other therapy, yet universal standards for measurement are lacking. Current practice employs methods that are diverse and not based on widely disseminated knowledge of what works best and why. Typically laboratories develop their own protocols for data collection and these protocols are not shared broadly. Knowledge gained from experience and studies in the laboratories is delayed in dissemination either via professional meetings or publication. This project explores the need for standards concurrent with that of disseminating information more quickly. Part I of the project focuses on testing the reliability of two gait measures in children with cerebral palsy, myelomeningocele, and hypotonia.

Comparative Study of Workplace Policy and Practices Contributing to Discrimination

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Project Number: H133F70001
Start Date: July 1, 1997 **Length:** 12 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $40,000
Abstract: This study compares the experiences of American employers and human resource professionals under the ADA of 1990 and those of British employers and human resources professionals under the disability non-discrimination requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (UK). Interacting factors are: the presence of health insurance, other employment legislation, human resources practices, and labor relations policy. The goals of this study: (1) identify existing human resource policies and practices to promote employment nondiscrimination; (2) compare U.S. human resource practices to those in Britain; (3) identify sociocultural, economic, and health policy factors that influence how business organizations deal with equity of access across the employment process; (4) design material for information dissemination both to human resource students and professionals, to placement personnel, and to representatives from advocacy organizations.

Collaboration Involving Families and Service Providers from Different Agencies: Examining Its Effects on Interventions for Preschoolers with Autism

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Project Number: H133F70008
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 12 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $40,000

Abstract: This study addresses four questions: (1) what is the nature of intervention services received by families of young children with autism? (2) what are families' roles and perceptions of these services? (3) to what degree do different agency providers ensure that their individual services are coordinated or contiguous in nature? and (4) what is the impact of interagency coordination on the amount and quality of intervention services received by these families? This study is expected to produce a wealth of new information about how to promote collaboration that leads to effective interventions for young children with autism.

Illinois

An Anthropology of the Prosthetics Field

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Project Number: H133F70011
Start Date: August 1, 1997 **Length:** 12 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $35,000
Abstract: The goals of this study are to: (1) conduct ethnographic research in specific social contexts of the prosthetics field: biomedical engineers, prosthetists, and amputees; (2) describe and analyze the activities and roles of prosthetics technology research and development, of prosthetist education and business practice, and of amputees within the prosthetics field; and (3) describe and analyze the social perspectives and practices of each group and their implications for the prosthetics field as a cultural system.

Telemedicine and Neuropsychological Services: Improving Access to Care for Rural Residents with Brain Injury

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Project Number: H133F70010
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 16 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $35,000

Abstract: Objectives of this study include: assessing telemedicine versus in-person care in consumer, family member, provider, and rehabilitation counselor satisfaction; assessing costs, psychological and neuropsychological status, and level of community integration; and providing qualitative and (to the extent possible) quantitative evaluation of racial/ethnic differences in needs and attitudes toward telemedicine.

Ohio

An Evaluation of the Effects of Transitional Rehabilitative Services on Employment and Independent Living Outcomes of Vocational Students with Disabilities

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Project Number: H133F70016
Start Date: June 15, 1997 **Length:** 12 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $35,000
Abstract: This study describes and validates the efficacy of providing specific transition rehabilitative services to youth with disabilities. Participants have had the opportunity to remain engaged in their educational program until they were fully integrated into competitive employment or actively engaged in an adult service or postsecondary program, regardless of graduation status. This extends a previous study by Campbell and Stanley (1990-93) to include the collection of an additional three years of wage record data and responses to a mail questionnaire.

Community Based Rehabilitation

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Principal Investigator: Gene R. Rodgers
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Project Number: H133F70021
Start Date: September 15, 1997 **Length:** 12 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $35,000
Abstract: This project is designed to demonstrate how to empower minorities with disabilities, and to describe how to provide rehabilitation services at a lower cost and in a more timely manner to several disadvantaged ethnic minority populations. Of specific interest is community-based rehabilitation (CBR) for Hispanics and Native Americans. This project designs CBR programs that actively involve the community to embrace the spirit of the ADA through work with the New Mexico Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and Native American communities.

Family Needs Coping and Psychological Health Following Traumatic Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury

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Project Number: H133F70013
Start Date: September 1, 1997 **Length:** 12 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $35,000

Abstract: Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a pervasive problem. The consequences of TBI have an emotional cost for patients and their families. Persistent and high levels of emotional distress, including depression and anxiety, have been documented in family members. The research on families has been characterized by methodological limitations including use of measures with uncertain validity, lack of appropriate control groups, and failure to consider the special needs of minority populations. This investigation overcomes previous limitations by using validated, standardized instruments, comparing family members of people with brain injury to those of people with spinal cord injury, and delineating the special characteristics of minority family members. It examines interrelationships between family members' needs, levels of emotional distress, and coping strategies. Data is collected at the Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, and The Institute for Rehabilitation Research in Houston Texas. The sample includes a large proportion of minority group members. Results aid in gaining a better understanding of family members' adjustment and support development of empirically derived treatment strategies.

FIELD-INITIATED RESEARCH

This program is designed to encourage eligible applicants to originate valuable ideas for research and demonstration, development, or knowledge dissemination activities in areas which represent their own interests, yet are directly related to the rehabilitation of people with disabilities.

Functional and Rehabilitation Outcomes of Patients Who Have Developed Guillain-Barre Syndrome

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Project Number: H133G70032
Start Date: June 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $116,993

Abstract: This study provides the data necessary to describe the significance to rehabilitation of Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS). GBS is the most common cause of acute neuromuscular paralysis in developed countries, afflicting about 5,000 people annually in the United States. However, the extent and duration of physically disabling secondary results of GBS, including the incidence of secondary medical complications, have never been described. Vocational and psychosocial outcomes have also not been assessed. Without a prospective analysis of such outcomes, the magnitude of the problems GBS presents for the rehabilitation community will remain unknown and appropriate resources and pro-active treatment approaches will not be allocated and developed. In this project results of pilot studies and a database-building data collection effort are used to develop new and refined research questions and hypotheses, and build appropriate mechanisms into the database to address those questions. The database is built upon the collective experience of an investigative team that has successfully developed and maintained the National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center (NSCISC).

Multimedia Job Accommodations Curriculum Project for Persons Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

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Project Number: H133G70104
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $100,164

Abstract: This project is designed to meet the needs expressed by consumers, employers, and vocational rehabilitation professionals for increased knowledge about requesting and getting on-the-job accommodations. The project makes accessible and disseminates research-based findings and information already developed in a prototype model that empowers workers who are deaf or hard of hearing to identify and request an appropriate on-the-job accommodation.

Adaptive Parenting Equipment: Evaluation, Development, Dissemination, and Marketing

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Project Number: H133G60036
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: Adaptive parenting equipment facilitates routine parenting tasks for parents with physical disabilities and its presence or absence can profoundly affect the parent-child relationship. Following a model of using a nonpathological approach to parenting with a physical disability from Through the Looking Glass, this study addresses the critical need for adaptive parenting equipment in four ways: (1) continuing to refine and develop adaptive parenting equipment and techniques that meet the needs of a wide variety of parents with physical disabilities; (2) investigating the impact of adaptive equipment on the parent-infant relationship; (3) training practitioners to assess parents' adaptive needs effectively and developing and implementing appropriate adaptive parenting equipment and techniques; and (4) assessing and implementing appropriate manufacturing, marketing, and distribution strategies for prototypes of adaptive parenting equipment that have been developed.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Development of a Novel PC-Based Test to Aid the Rehabilitation of People with Macular Vision Loss

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Project Number: H133G50164
Start Date: May 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $83,333; FY 96 $83,333; FY 97 $83,333
Other Funding: FY 95 $40,385 (Source: Andrus Foundation)

Abstract: Patients with age-related macular degeneration (AMD) lose the ability to read and recognize faces on television. They must learn to perform these tasks using their less-detailed peripheral vision as a substitute. Research has shown that people with AMD can learn this, but a majority do so only with goal-directed instructions and training that must be based on each patient's individual vision status. For the purpose of this assessment, a new computerized test was developed at this laboratory on Amiga computers that are no longer commercially available. The overwhelmingly positive response to this new procedure warrants this special effort to transfer the test to the most common small computer, the IBM PC and its compatibles. The product of this research is an inexpensive and easy-to-run computerized test that can be performed within minutes in the eyecare specialist's office, without requiring special expertise and on widely available equipment. The results of the test can be used: (1) to help the eyecare specialist customize instructions and training procedures in order to keep the required adaptation time as short as possible, and (2) to help AMD patients understand the nature of their impairment.

Disability Rights Leadership Archive

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Project Number: H133G60192
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $138,277; FY 97 $138,277
Abstract: This project attempts to: (1) ensure the survival of archival materials documenting the history of the disability rights movement; (2) foster disability studies by increasing access to and use of these materials through the creation of the *Scholar's Guide to Disability Rights Media Sources,* the *Disability Rights Timeline,* research papers, and a final manuscript; (3) increase public awareness and understanding of the disability rights movement by furthering the development of the television program *Created Equal,* that presents, for the first time, a comprehensive, historically accurate view of disability rights to the American public, in the mostly widely used learning vehicle, television. The project is led and staffed by people with disabilities, academic and documentary experts, and graduate students in the field.

The Disabled Persons' Independence Movement: The Formative Years in Berkeley California

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Project Number: H133G60193
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: This project is developing a research platform that documents, preserves, and makes accessible to researchers a major segment of the history of the independent living movement and the struggle for civil rights by people with disabilities. The project is conducting oral history research and is collecting written and visual documentation of the formative years of the movement in Berkeley California, and its interrelations and influences nationwide. It is putting in place a plan and process for ongoing documentation of key organizations in the Berkeley area serving people with disabilities both regionally and nationally. All research materials are being archived in the Bancroft Library at the University of California at Berkeley.

Employment and Work Disability Among Hard-of-Hearing Persons

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Project Number: H133G60097
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 24 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $132,638; FY 97 $123,900
Abstract: This study is determining the extent to which job task requirements affect underemployment and work disability of people who are hard of hearing. It is based on a disablement model that posits association among gender, psychological distress, underemployment, and hearing loss as they relate to the essential communication requirements of the job. Four primary topics are being addressed: (1) the impact of hearing loss on the age-specific probabilities of work disability and labor force withdrawal in communication-demanding jobs, (2) the extent that work communication requirements and sex segregation of occupations are related to sex differences in psychological distress, (3) how the relationship between communication demands of work and psychological distress affect the nature and timing of underemployment and work disability, and (4) specific workplace communication accommodations needed for hard-of-hearing workers.

California

Post-Traumatic Epilepsy in Traumatic Brain Injury

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Project Number: H133G50013
Start Date: July 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $125,000; FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000
Abstract: The purpose of this multicenter, three-year study is to determine by a prospective natural observation, which individuals with a traumatic brain injury are at highest risk for seizures beyond the first week of injury. All patients with a traumatic brain injury admitted to Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, Denver General Hospital, Detroit Receiving Hospital, and Medical College of Virginia Hospital are eligible to enroll in the study if they meet the inclusion criteria. Patient information is analyzed on a case-by-case basis. Incidence of seizures and length of time using the anticonvulsant drug Dilantin is compared with published incidence figures. Seizure events up to seven days postinjury are documented and treated clinically by medical and nursing staff responsible for the patient. After hospital discharge, research associates make monthly verbal contact with each subject to determine if a seizure has occurred.

Powered Mobility and Young Children with Disabilities: A Multicenter Trial to Determine the Cognitive and Coping Factors That Predict Wheelchair Skill Level

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Project Number: H133G60183
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $124,958; FY 97 $124,973

Abstract: This project validates, in a multicenter trial, a newly developed cognitive assessment battery for predicting a young child's readiness for powered mobility. This is important because research in developmental psychology asserts that the ability to move about independently is critical to a child's development of cognitive, social, and communication skills. Young children who are unable to move independently are at risk for development delays. Due to limited availability of clinical assessment instruments, it is often difficult to determine when a young child with mobility impairments may be developmentally ready to operate a powered wheelchair functionally. In addition, the project expands the predictive power of this assessment instrument by adding a component to assess coping skill (e.g., persistence, distractibility, etc.) and to explore the applicability of this battery with a new population of children (i.e., those with cerebral palsy).

Remote Signage Development to Address Current and Emerging Access Problems for Blind Individuals

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Project Number: H133G60076
Start Date: June 15, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: This project is developing new, practical enhancements of remote signage technology to solve a range of specific current and emerging accessibility problems faced by people who are blind and who have other print-reading disabilities. For blind users, access to any place or facility begins with the problem of knowing it is there; then the problem of finding it must be addressed. Specific solutions are being developed for safe usage of light-controlled pedestrian crossings, identification and onboard announcements of stops for buses, identifying route number and destination of oncoming buses, locating and accessing automated teller machines and other vending information terminals, and access to signage by people with cognitive impairments. These innovative solutions are being developed from the infrared Talking Signs(R) system of remotely readable signs for people who are blind that was developed by Smith-Kettlewell. This system is currently gaining increased acceptance as an aid to orientation and navigation for those who cannot read the print signage that fully sighted people take for granted in navigating and accessing the world.

Spatial Hearing with Laboratory-Based Hearing Aids

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Project Number: H133G70107
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: Since conventional binaural hearing aids do not satisfactorily solve the problem of speech perception in noise, a long-term goal of the Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute is to develop a better binaural hearing aid (HA). This project's new hypothesis suggests that a binaural perceptual balance of Interaural Intensity Difference (IID) and Interaural Time Delay (ITD) across frequencies is required to restore optimum localization and speech intelligibility by eliminating or lessening exaggerated dominance consequent to asymmetric hearing loss. Aberrations of either or both IID and ITD at different frequencies would impair directional localization and, therefore, speech intelligibility in noise.

Efficacy of Intervention for Infants and Toddlers from Non-English Home Language Environments with Educationally Significant Hearing Loss

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Project Number: H133G50069
Start Date: May 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $122,447; FY 96 $122,447; FY 97 $122,447

Abstract: This project determines the sensitivity of hearing loss assessment tools to developmental gains in children whose primary language is Spanish. Eighty normally developing children of Hispanic descent who come from families in which Spanish is the primary language are identified and assessed at each of five age groups, 9, 15, 21, 27, and 33 months (16 children per age group), with assessment tools that are currently used to document progress in children with disabilities, including hearing loss. Children from English-and Spanish-speaking homes are compared, as are children with normal hearing and those with hearing loss. This study: (1) determines the effect of primary language in the home and hearing status on development; (2) identifies variables that are most highly rated to successful age-appropriate development; and (3) matches children of Native American, African American, and Asian American descent who are deaf or hard of hearing with counterparts from non-Native/African/Asian American families. Groups are matched according to degree of hearing loss, age of identification, and socioeconomic status. It is hypothesized that no significant differences between groups exist on the assessment tools when hearing loss, socioeconomic status, and age of identification are considered.

Outcomes for Children and Youth with Autism

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Project Number: H133G70006
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000
Abstract: The goal of this project is to help identify key community variables that enhance or hinder positive, long-term outcomes of early intervention services for children and youth with autism. The research will provide a community-based ecobehavioral assessment of the current status of children 6 to 15 years of age who received comprehensive early intervention services for children diagnosed by at least two independent sources as autistic (using DSM-III criteria). Using ecobehavioral assessment procedures, this project focuses its efforts on completing a comprehensive, community-setting portrayal of some 51 children who vary from 1 to 13 years away from their early intervention experience. Based upon hypotheses generated by correlational and path analyses between criterion outcomes and ecobehavioral events/settings, researchers expect to identify key community variables that serve to enhance or hinder positive, long-term outcomes.

Cash and Counseling Models for Americans with Disabilities

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Project Number: H133G50170
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $125,000; FY 96 $130,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: In the *cash and counseling* model, consumers with disabilities control most elements of their service needs, normally through cash payments that allow them to purchase support services. Activities of this three-year study include: (1) continuing in-depth field research and ongoing monitoring of domestic and overseas programs that currently use cash and counseling or a similar model; (2) conducting two surveys of state administrators to identify existing cash and counseling programs, determine their level of knowledge and interest in employing cash and counseling approaches, and identify opportunities and barriers to program implementation, as well as technical assistance needs; (3) collaborating on the Cash-and-Counseling Demonstration and Evaluation Project at the University of Maryland Center on Aging funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; (4) providing information and technical assistance to state administrators and policy analysts interested in advancing cash and counseling approaches, including the four states awarded cash and counseling demonstration and evaluation grants; (5) developing a series of analyses concerning the feasibility, design, and implementation issues of cash and counseling approaches; and (6) disseminating new knowledge to policy makers, administrators, and the aging and disability communities.

Toward a Risk Adjustment Methodology for People with Disabilities

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Project Number: H133G70072
Start Date: August 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,983
Abstract: The principle goal of this knowledge dissemination project is to provide its primary audiences, health care policy-makers and payers, with key information to advance the development of a risk adjustment system for working-and retirement-age people with disabilities. Risk adjustment reduces the incentive for risk selection and promotes access to needed health services. To achieve this goal, the project assembles a panel of leading experts on risk adjustment and disability to guide the development of a consensus report that: (1) details the state of science in risk adjustment, (2) evaluates the appropriateness of health care outcome indicators for people with physical and mental disabilities, and (3) provides a set of recommendations for modifying and implementing risk adjustment methodologies that enhance access to health services for people with disabilities enrolled in public and private sector health plans.

Developing and Evaluating Family Networks: Positive Behavioral Support

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Project Number: H133G60119
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: The purpose of this project is to develop, demonstrate, and evaluate a program for building competent family networks concerned with challenging behaviors and developmental disabilities. Using a participatory training approach in collaboration with community agencies (e.g., Parent-to-Parent), the project is establishing family networks of reciprocal support. Perspectives and practical techniques of behavioral support are being shared with the networks through a combination of demonstration, presentation, practice, and coaching strategies. After the initial period of network development and training in behavioral support strategies, the project assists in the maintenance of network interactions and evaluates the short-term and longitudinal processes and outcomes associated with the network's interactions. Over the three-year period the project is conducted within three multicultural community "cohorts" of family members.

Integrated Services and Parent Partnerships in Schools: Meeting the Needs of Children with Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities and Their Families

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Project Number: H133G70013
Start Date: August 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000
Abstract: The purpose of this project is to test, empirically, the effectiveness of an integrated services model that includes parents as partners with service providers and schools for children with severe emotional and behavioral disabilities (EBD). The project identifies outcomes for children with EBD in the areas of academic achievement, social functioning, and community adjustments. These outcomes are to be compared under conditions of an integrated services model with parents as partners versus usual special education practice.

Aging and Adjustment After Spinal Cord Injury: A Twenty-Five Year Longitudinal Study

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Project Number: H133G70111
Start Date: July 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Sean Sweeney, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,796

Abstract: People are now living longer after spinal cord injury (SCI), yet only limited research has addressed issues of aging and life adjustment after SCI. The purpose of this study is to implement the fifth stage of data collection to a 25-year longitudinal study that has traced the course of life adjustment after SCI over the past two decades. The unique contributions of this data collection include: inclusion of nearly 100 participants who have been injured more than 30 years since injury, first time longitudinal comparisons among large samples of women and racial/ethnic minorities (including more than 200 minority participants, 63 of whom are women), and utilization of consumer advisory groups to help identify factors accounting for change.

Illinois Joint Training Initiative on Disability and Abuse: Advocacy and Empowerment Through Knowledge Dissemination

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Project Number: H133G70124
Start Date: August 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $123,990

Abstract: This project provides information and skills to advocates, consumers, family members, service providers, and others to empower them to enforce the rights of adults with disabilities who have been abused or neglected. It is largely a training project, with the following objectives regarding abuse/neglect: (1) develop interactive consumer-responsive materials that train consumers, family members, and service providers to recognize incidents; (2) make the social and legal system respond to cases; (3) provide referral to resources available for victims; (4) conduct state-wide training using the materials; (5) provide each training participant with the opportunity to become a local trainer on these issues; and (6) provide technical assistance, materials, and resources to local trainers hosting training events.

Physician Training in the Major Health Issues of Women with Disabilities: Learning to Act in Partnership

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Project Number: H133G50059
Start Date: January 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $124,899; FY 96 $124,899; FY 97 $124,899

Abstract: Women with disabilities report that their health needs are often overlooked or poorly addressed by physicians, who evidence unfamiliarity with, and negative attitudes toward, people with disabilities. These subjective reports are corroborated by studies that suggest women with disabilities may find their health service options severely compromised when physicians lack information about their special needs and experience. This project designs and tests the efficacy of a training module that introduces medical students to the health issues of women with disabilities, in three phases: (1) fourth-year medical students respond to a questionnaire to assess their deficiencies in knowledge regarding the health needs and experiences of women with disabilities, (2) a training module is developed incorporating a video, a corresponding in-person educational presentation led by women with disabilities, and a handbook of supplementary readings, (3) the efficacy of the module in improving attitudes and knowledge is tested in a pretest/post-test design with a control group. Women with a broad range of disabilities, ages, and ethnic/racial/cultural backgrounds are participating in all aspects of the project, from research direction through training development to dissemination of results. Consequently, the project represents a model of consumer-physician partnership that is endorsed by women health activists with disabilities.

Relation of Rehabilitation Intervention to Functional Outcome in Acute and Subacute Settings

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Project Number: H133G60135
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: Seven rehabilitation facilities that provide acute medical rehabilitation are assessing rehabilitation outcomes and predictors of outcomes, using a method for assessing rehabilitation therapy goals, activities, and barriers to goal attainment. This project is extending that study. It uses the same methodology used by five sites that provide *subacute* rehabilitation. Being assessed are: (1) patient attributes at admission, such as impairment severity, comorbid conditions and complications, functional deficits, and demographic characteristics; (2) therapeutic interventions (type, quantity, duration, modality, and intensity) provided in acute and subacute settings; and (3) outcomes achieved (functional status, discharge destination, and patient satisfaction). The lead project, the NIDRR-funded RRTC Functional Assessment and Evaluation of Rehabilitation Outcomes, was awarded to the State University of New York.

NIDRR Program Directory 1997

Home-Based Video-Counseling for Rural At-Risk Adolescents with Epilepsy and Their Parents: An Accessibility and Outcome Analysis

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Project Number: H133G60087
Start Date: December 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $374,999; FY 97 FY $118,455

Abstract: This project is evaluating the impact of issue-specific, video-system counseling on the psychosocial and educational functioning of at-risk teens with epilepsy and their parents who reside in rural areas. Objectives include: (1) assessing the difference between home-based video counseling and office-based counseling on the level of improvement, severity, and frequency of specific problems identified by at-risk teens and their parents; (2) assessing the difference between home-based video counseling and office-based family counseling on the therapeutic relationship between family member and counselor, and on overall consumer satisfaction; (3) examining the effects of home-based video counseling and office-based counseling on overall family functioning; and (4) testing for differences in adherence to intervention and in attrition rates between families in the two counseling conditions.

Experimental Test of Demand-Side Job Development in Iowa and Georgia

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Project Number: H133G60187
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joyce Y. Caldwell
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $124,691; FY 97 $124,691
Abstract: This project is testing an innovative job placement model: demand-side job development. The focus of demand-side job development is in making the workplace more "user friendly" for people with disabilities, and assisting employers in meeting their personnel needs, by providing these services directly to employers. The model is being tested in two states, Iowa and Georgia, which were selected for ethnic diversity and labor market variations. The experimental placement model (demand-side placement) is being tested in one district in each state. There is also a control district in each state that continues to use only traditional placement strategies.

Knowledge Dissemination for Vision Screeners

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Project Number: H133G60140
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $126,548; FY 97 $124,613

Abstract: This project is disseminating a CD-ROM to providers of vision screening and evaluation services, in order to increase the quantity and quality of vision services available nationally to infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and older people with disabilities. These populations are sometimes considered difficult to test, and as a consequence, often do not receive traditional vision screening services. The project addresses the training needs of a variety of personnel by providing an interactive CD-ROM program, modeled after the "knowledge on demand" technology used in industry, that can be readily delivered in a variety of settings. The program is providing a model for using CD-ROM to disseminate "knowledge on demand."

Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in High School Football

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Project Number: H133G70087
Start Date: July 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $122,981

Abstract: The goal of this multidiscipline research project is to conduct an intensive exploration of factors related to mild traumatic brain injury (MTBI) in youth. Even with clear and specific criteria for discriminating minor from moderate or severe brain injury, several factors may affect the reliability of MTBI classification. For accurate diagnosis, reliable observers must be present. The presence of multiple trauma in some cases may compound and prolong the disability, and may also make it difficult to distinguish the cause of some forms of symptomatology. The effects of alcohol or other drugs, when present, often mimic symptoms of MTBI, further confounding its diagnosis. Given these potential problems, Tulane University has chosen to study minor brain injury within the context of high school football. A population of young athletes participating in organized football allows for a more controlled study, due to the fact that additional massive trauma is absent, trained individuals are present at the time of injury, and secondary complications rarely occur that further brain injury.

Measuring Functional Communication: Multicultural and International Applications

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Project Number: H133G70055
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: The long-term objective of this project is to improve the quality of life for adults with communication disabilities by expanding and validating an assessment tool for multicultural and international populations. Assessments can then be made regarding communication functions and needs, and rehabilitation can be individualized to optimize the person's ability to communicate in their natural environments. Reliable communication skills are a requisite for individuals to achieve their social, educational, and vocational potentials, and for patients to understand and participate in their care and recovery. Activities of this project include: (1) development of a supplemental measure of higher-level communicative functions involving critical thinking, problem solving, interference drawing, reasoning, planning, and organizing thought; (2) validation of the extended American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Functional Assessment of Communication Skills for Adults with multicultural groups including African Americans, Asian Americans, Caucasian, Hispanic, and Native Americans; (3) validation with various populations with communication disorders such as those cause by brain injury, stroke, Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, and acquired neurological disorders; and (4) validation in other English-speaking countries.

The Impact of a Rehabilitation Introduction Group on State Vocational Rehabilitation Outcomes

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Project Number: H133G70098
Start Date: September 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $83,366

Abstract: The objective of this study is to help people with severe psychiatric disabilities make informed decisions about pursuing vocational rehabilitation and to study the specific cognitive factors that correlate with rehabilitation readiness. To accomplish this goal a total of 42 subjects participate in Rehabilitation Introduction Groups (RIGs) prior to entry into state vocational rehabilitation (SVR). An 18-month follow-up will compare a representative RIG sample to SVR clients who did not participate in the RIGs in order to assess the impact of the RIG on SVR process, outcomes, and measures of readiness.

The Parenting Options Project: A Development Project for Parents with Psychiatric Disabilities

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Project Number: H133G70079
Start Date: July 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: The purpose of this project is to develop new rehabilitation techniques focusing on parents with psychiatric disabilities, an emerging population whose needs often have been ignored by rehabilitation specialists and mental health service providers. Existing parent education programs often are based on traditional clinical models developed for children at risk of child abuse, or models developed for parents without disabilities. Because consumers are not active participants in program development, existing services often are irrelevant to parents with psychiatric disabilities, and may present barriers to parents' participation. No parent skills training model has been developed with systematic input from all stakeholders, and no goal-setting or assessment tool exists for this significant domain of adult functioning. Employing participatory action research (PAR) strategies, the project's goals are: (1) to develop an education and skills training curriculum for parents with psychiatric disabilities, (2) to develop a goal-setting and assessment tool for parents and their helping professionals, and (3) to evaluate the PAR development process.

Quantitative Assessment of Rehabilitation for Patients with Cerebellar Dysfunction

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Project Number: H133G60045
Start Date: July 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $99,988; FY 97 $99,988

Abstract: This project is: (1) determining the efficacy of cerebellar rehabilitation in 48 patients with locomotor instability caused by cerebellar dysfunction (CbD); (2) quantifying and characterizing the balance and functional limitations of patients with CbD during standing and locomotor activities of daily living (ADL) performance tests; (3) determining the relationship between commonly used clinical and laboratory locomotor ADL functional limitation indicators, and vestibulo-cerebellar function tests in patients with CbD; and (4) investigating cerebellar rehabilitation techniques that can be employed readily in any clinical setting, for a major cause of disability--balance impairment--in a group of patients with clear cerebellar causes of balance impairment. The methods used to assess the effectiveness of the rehabilitation include sophisticated and expensive equipment that may not be available to most clinicians, but the measurements are isolated from the rehabilitation process, so results can be applied to "low technology" measurements and treatment approaches accessible in any clinic.

Secondary Conditions, Assistance, and Health-Related Access Among Independently Living Adults with Major Disabling Conditions

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Project Number: H133G60037
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $124,136; FY 97 $124,136

Abstract: Participants in this study are affiliated with six Massachusetts independent living centers (ILCs). The cross-disability sample includes people with a range of significant physical, mental, sensory, and developmental disabilities who require assistance with activities of daily living. Primary outcomes of interest are: (1) the frequency and severity of secondary conditions, including skin problems, seizures, chronic pain, spasms, falls, fatigue, respiratory tract infections, and urinary tract infections; and (2) reactions to medication, depression, anxiety, and injuries related to medical equipment. Mediating variables include: adequacy of personal assistance, assistive technology, access to health promotion and health care services, environmental barriers, transportation, employment, education, socioeconomic status, smoking, use of substances, and compliance with prescribed health care routines. The research study includes two annual cross-sectional surveys, each of 300 randomly-selected ILC consumers, to determine prevalence, distribution, frequency, and severity of secondary conditions. Focus groups of ILC consumers and others help interpret the data.

Severe Intrauterine Growth Retardation: Rehabilitative Intervention in the NICU

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Project Number: H133G50016
Start Date: July 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $124,998; FY 96 $124,988; FY 97 $124,998
Other Funding: FY 95 $140,000 (EEPCD)

Abstract: The goals of this project are to develop and test a model of neuropsychoeducational rehabilitation in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) that is specifically geared to therapeutic early intervention for preterm infants from minority backgrounds with severe intrauterine growth retardation (IUGR). Key ingredients of the intervention involve: (1) serial, detailed neuropsychological assessment of the IUGR infant in the NICU in the presence of the infant's parents and professional caregivers; (2) interpretation of the assessment findings for the parents and professional caregivers; (3) documentation of sleep-wake cycles and feeding competence; (4) collaborative formulation of appropriate individualized supports for infant and parent; (5) guidance during parental and professional caregiving and during medical procedures; (6) training of volunteers in support of infants and parents; (7) in-NICU mentoring of early intervention providers; (8) mentoring of medical staff in training; (9) linkage with post-NICU specialty services, such as the Center for Pediatric Sleep Disorder, Behavioral Medicine, and Neuropsychology Services; and (10) linkage with community-based early intervention programs (EIP) and follow-up support, including neuropsychological assessment, teaching, and consultation for parents and EIP providers.

Voice Recognition and Secondary Students with Disabilities: Realizing the Potential

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Family, School, and Community
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Project Number: H133G70143
Start Date: September 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Robert J. Jaeger, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,995

Abstract: This project concentrates on how secondary students with cognitive and physical disabilities may become successful writers by using voice recognition technology. The project plans to develop, pilot, publish, and market the following set of products: (1) adaptations to voice recognition systems that make them more accessible to secondary students with physical or learning disabilities; (2) tools that help educators and parents understand the demands of voice recognition for secondary students with disabilities; (3) revised training protocols and materials that are tailored to the needs of secondary students with disabilities; (4) tools for educators and parents to help them integrate voice recognition technology into the physical design of their homes and classrooms and into meaningful instructional activities. Project partners are the Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC), and the Communication Enhancement Center at Children's Hospital in Boston.

Direct Brain Interface for Control of Assistance Technology

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Project Number: H133G70120
Start Date: September 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Robert J. Jaeger, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,993

Abstract: Most assistive technology interfaces are operated by some form of physical movement, however many people could benefit from an interface that does not require physical movement and instead accepts commands directly from the brain. This research explores the detection and use of event-related potentials (ERP's) intracranially recorded from the subdural to demonstrate the feasibility of a direct brain interface for people with disabilities. In this study a direct brain interface is defined as an interface that accepts signals directly from the brain and requires no physical movement. Work in this project is limited to signals arising from voluntary cognitive activity as opposed to those evoked through external stimuli.

Quality of Life for Persons with a Spinal Cord Injury: A Qualitative and Quantitative Study

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Project Number: H133G50138
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $125,000; FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000
Abstract: This project: (1) describes the quality of life (QOL) of people with spinal cord injury (SCI) in sufficient detail to understand the connectedness of (changing) standards, accomplishments, and their evaluation by various subgroups of this population; and (2) develops various versions of the SCI-QLI (Quality of Life Index) for people with SCI. Qualitative research methods, including unstructured interviews, are used to develop a list of significant life domains. Two phases of quantitative data collection are used to determine reliability and validity of the SCI-QLI, based on data supplied by various samples of people with SCI. Final versions of the instruments (clinical and research) are disseminated in booklet form.

Treatment of Upper-Extremity Spasticity with Botulinum Toxin: Motor Control Evaluation to Determine Efficacy

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Project Number: H133G60161
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $124,992; FY 97 $124,992

Abstract: This program is studying 30 subjects between the ages of 7 and 13 who have upper extremity spasticity that interferes with functional tasks. The subjects are evaluated for tone, range of motion, strength, and ability to perform standardized tasks. They then undergo a series of motor control tests, in which they are asked to perform simple tasks with their upper extremities. Movement parameters such as reaction time, speed, bilateral synchronization, and peak angular velocities are assessed. Electromyography measurements examine patterns of muscle activity during movements, which can be compared to normal patterns. The subjects undergo a series of testing over six months, the upper limit of expected efficacy of an injection of botulinum toxin. The hypothesis is that the subjects have an improvement toward a more normal pattern on all testing, which gradually decreases back toward baseline with time. Differences from baseline are analyzed with paired t-tests or paired rank sum tests. The duration of efficacy is measured using survival analysis techniques. The magnitude of effect of the injections is examined to see of there is a subgroup that receives a maximum benefit from the treatment.

Facilitating the Social Inclusion of Adults with Autism and Other Communication and Interaction Disorders

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Project Number: H133G40084
Start Date: July 1, 1994 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $125,000; FY 95 $125,000; FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 (No-cost extension through 12/31/97)

Abstract: This project develops and implements residential, school-based, person-centered social inclusion programs for young adults and adults with autism, based upon the unique needs and characteristics of participants, their families/places of residence, and the communities in which they live. These programs are designed to enhance the social skills and opportunities of participating individuals, empowering them to establish and maintain social relationships with members of their communities. A number of different strategies are used to: (1) better understand the conceptualizations of social relationships held by people with autism and other developmental disabilities; (2) identify barriers to enhanced social inclusion for these groups; (3) conduct a descriptive study of the social networks and degree of social inclusion experienced by project participants; and (4) develop and field-test with multiple cohorts a three-component intervention program. The results of this project provide preliminary evaluation information on the efficacy of person-centered social inclusion planning as a tool to enhance the social lives of people with developmental disabilities.

Longitudinal and Cross-Sectional Studies of Changes and Differences in Post-School Outcomes of Adults and Youth with Severe Disabilities

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Project Number: H133G40086
Start Date: October 1, 1994 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joyce Y. Caldwell
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $123,447; FY 95 $123,447; FY 96 $123,447; FY 97 (No-cost extension through 4/1/98)

Abstract: This project is completing descriptive, longitudinal, and cross-sectional research with: (1) youth with moderate to severe disabilities who exited school between 1976 and 1986; (2) the same individuals as adults who have been out of school a minimum of ten years; and (3) youth with moderate to severe disabilities who left school after 1990. This information is used to identify: (1) differences in outcomes of people with moderate to severe disabilities as they age; (2) differences in outcomes between youth who exited school between 1976 and 1986 and those who exited after 1990; (3) differences in outcomes between adults with moderate to severe disabilities who have been out of school a minimum of ten years, and youth with moderate to severe disabilities who have been out of school since 1990; and (4) differences in perceived needs of families that include adults with moderate to severe disabilities who have been out of school a minimum of 10 years, and families with youth who have moderate to severe disabilities who have been out of school since 1990.

Enhancing Employment Outcomes of African Americans Who Are Blind: Identifying and Meeting Unique Needs

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Project Number: H133G50089
Start Date: September 30, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joyce Y. Caldwell
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $125,000; FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: This project is oriented specifically to special and unique needs in rehabilitation service delivery and enhancement of employment outcomes of African Americans who are blind. The project is conducted jointly with Alabama A&M University as co-investigator/subcontractor. The project extends and expands an ongoing research collaboration between the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Blindness and Low Vision at Mississippi State University and Alabama A&M. The RRTC and Alabama A&M are currently investigating barriers to participation of African Americans in the profession of blindness services.

The Self-Employment Experience: Learning About Entrepreneurs with Disabilities to Build Models for Improving Self-Employment Outcomes

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Project Number: H133G70064
Start Date: August 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joyce Y. Caldwell
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $120,822

Abstract: This project examines self-employment experiences of people with disabilities. While self-employment is a growing national trend for people without disabilities, it is generally considered a less-than-optimal outcome for consumers of vocational rehabilitation (VR) services and is seldom pursued. Survey respondents are sampled from two sources. First, state VR agencies with high percentages of self-employment closures are solicited to participate by providing access to consumers they have assisted to start businesses. Second, the Disabled Businesspersons Association (DBA) provides access to members who have achieved self-employment without the assistance of a VR agency. The results are expected to provide a clearer understanding of self-employment for people with disabilities, result in policy and procedures development, and result in recommendations for improved practice for future entrepreneurs with disabilities and support agencies. The project plans to use the results to develop profiles of self-employed individuals with disabilities and to recommend changes to VR practices that will promote self-employment as a viable service outcome.

Forging Coalitions: Networking with Traditional Civil Rights Organizations Toward Promoting Minority Leadership and Disability Advocacy

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Project Number: H133G50060
Start Date: June 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joyce Y. Caldwell
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $125,000; FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: This project promotes the cultivation of a regional network of disability advocacy leaders who are members of minority groups with disabilities or their families. An equally important goal is to engage two types of traditional civil rights organizations: (1) those such as the National Urban League, to cultivate new disability advocacy leaders and, by doing so, establish their organizational presence as a national partner in the disability advocacy rights movement; and (2) national networks of mainstream disability advocacy groups such as The Arc and independent living centers (ILCs).

New Hampshire

Hippocampal Dysfunction Following TBI: A Functional and Volumetric MRI Study of Memory Loss and Recovery

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Project Number: H133G70031
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: Although there are numerous sequelae from traumatic brain injury (TBI), one of the most prominent and disabling for patients and their care givers is loss of memory. Driving this research is that abnormalities of hippocampal function and structure underlie these memory deficits and mechanisms of loss and recovery. The purpose of this project is to (1) test the hypothesis that an abnormal activation in the hippocampal formation (HF) and temporal neocortex serves as the central neural substrate of disordered anterograde memory shortly after TBI, (2) relate recovery of memory functioning to normalization of temporal-hippocampal activation pattern 12 months after TBI, and (3) characterize the relationship between abnormalities in hippocampal function as measured by functional MRI and changes in hippocampal function volumetry.

Rhode Island Supported Employment Project

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Project Number: H133G50032
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joyce Y. Caldwell
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $125,000; FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000
Other Funding: FY 95 $35,000 (Source: State of Rhode Island)

Abstract: This project is facilitating and evaluating the conversion of two-day treatment programs based at mental health centers into a supported employment program known as Individual Placement and Support model (IPS). The third mental health center in the study is offering an alternative psychiatric service program that has vocational emphasis while continuing to operate a downsized day treatment program. At the conclusion of the second year of the study, two mental health centers have fully converted their day treatment programs to IPS programs. The program evaluation examines the cost effectiveness and consumer outcomes of the two program conversions and the alternative program. The focus of the evaluation is on the impact of the conversion on 147 consumers who had been regular day treatment attendees.

Detecting Incipient Skin Breakdown for People with Deeply Pigmented Skin

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Project Number: H133G50018
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $112,349; FY 96 $117,581; FY 97 $117,000

Abstract: People at risk for pressure sores regularly check for skin redness as a standard method to detect tissue distress. If persistent skin redness is detected, and its cause is removed, tissue breakdown can be prevented. However, for most black people at risk for tissue breakdown, this warning sign is attenuated or even completely shielded from view by melanin in the epidermis. With no effective alternative warning sign available, pressure damage in black subjects is likely to be detected when it is more advanced and less reversible. The investigators have developed a technique for measuring skin response to localized pressure, that measures skin capillary blood content and oxygenation via tissue reflectance spectroscopy. This study is being conducted in three phases: Phase 1 uses the current measurement system to establish a reliable analytical method that differentiates skin in its "resting" state, during reactive hyperemia, and during persistent redness, regardless of melanization. Phase 2 is developing a simplified, portable prototype Skin Redness Indicator (SRI). In Phase 3 the SRI is evaluated at six independent test sites. The project is determining design/utility issues and the false positive/negative rates of the device for a wide range of subjects at risk for skin breakdown.

A Direction Finding, Beam Forming (DF-BF) Conference Microphone System

The Lexington Center, Inc.
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http://idt.net/~reslex

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Project Number: H133G70122
Start Date: June 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: This project is developing and evaluating a conference microphone system that is intended to provide improved speech intelligibility in noisy and reverberant environments for people who are hard of hearing. The microphone system also improves the accuracy of computer-assisted speech transcription systems for people who are deaf. The system uses digital array processing techniques to perform two discrete functions: (1) determine talker direction within a given angular resolution, and (2) aim a superdirectional beam pattern at that talker. In instances where more than one person is speaking at the same time, the system has the ability to activate more than one directional pattern, or alternatively receive sound from all directions until one talker has taken the floor. Although this device is designed specifically for people who have hearing loss, it also offers advantages to the general population, particularly when used in teleconferencing.

Functional, Physiologic, and Immunologic Outcomes of Quantitative Progressive Exercise Rehabilitation of the Lower Extremities in Juvenile Arthritis: A Pilot Study

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Principal Investigator: Nadine Fisher, EdD
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Project Number: H133G70156
Start Date: June 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,994

Abstract: This project determines the effects of muscle exercise rehabilitation on Juvenile Arthritis (JA) using quantitative measurement of functional, physiological, immunological, and biomedical outcomes of Quantitative Progressive Exercise Rehabilitation (QPER). JA is the most common of the rheumatic diseases affecting children; the disability that may result from this disease has a greater impact on lifestyle and quality of life in children than adults due to its early onset. Approximately 25 percent of all children with JA will develop contractures and deformity, with 10 percent experiencing significant functional disabilities into adulthood. The goals of this project: (1) determine the differences affecting the lower joints, between normal children and those with JA, with respect to their functional, physiologic, biomedical, and immunologic responses to exercise; (2) evaluate the efficacy and effects of a previously published muscle exercise program developed in the laboratory, QPER with JA; (3) investigate the biomedical and immunologic changes occurring as a result of exercise testing and the QPER program. Assessment of the impact on disease activity, symptoms, and a variety of functional outcome parameters is planned following completion of the program and 12 months later.

The Universal Bathroom

The Research Foundation of State University of New York
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Project Number: H133G60203
Start Date: January 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $124,786; FY 97 $124,786

Abstract: While the greatest potential benefactors of a universal bathroom are non-institutionalized people with disabilities who are living independently, the new bathroom's design will be created to be safe, accessible and usable by all people regardless of their age, sex, and disabling conditions. Its assumed modular, interchangeable components will include three primary units, for bathing/showering, toileting, and grooming. Since the bathroom of the user's choice can be custom built from a large range of component units, this will be a marketable, culturally responsive one with accepted layouts and levels of privacy. Additionally, the "lifespan perspective" of the bathroom's design will allow able-bodied care-providers such as parents of young children and those assisting older individuals to make layout changes and product alterations based on their current needs. Thus the bathroom's assistive qualities will reduce temporary dependence on others and increase safety by preventing accidents that lead to disability. It will empower independent users, dependent users, and care-providers equally--the young, the old, married couples, people with children, and families with "live-in" grandparents.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Persons Who Are HIV+ or Have AIDS: Enhancing Quality of Life and Labor Market Participation

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Research Foundation of CUNY
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Principal Investigator: John O'Neill, PhD
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Project Number: H133G60101
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: This project is measuring the impact of vocational rehabilitation services on the quality of life and labor participation of people who have HIV/AIDS. Participatory action research (PAR) provides a methodological framework for the study. The research was initiated with a series of focus groups conducted with people who have HIV/AIDS, to identify the range of needs they experienced. These needs are being further validated through a Quality of Life survey of a minimum of 200 people with HIV/AIDS. In addition, surveys are collected from a minimum of 100 other people with spinal cord injury (SCI) and cancer. These other populations are fairly well known to rehabilitation professionals and provide useful contrasts in understanding the needs of people with HIV/AIDS, and in determining which services are likely to be the most effective given similar circumstances.

Communication of Preschool Males with Fragile X Syndrome: Profiles, Environmental Influences, and Intervention Strategies

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Project Number: H133G60186
Start Date: August 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $116,211; FY 97 $116,984

Abstract: This project examines the development of the communication skills of 50 preschool males with fragile X syndrome, to understand development better and to elucidate appropriate approaches for early intervention services. The children's communication skills are measured annually, and families and early interventionists serving the study's children are interviewed annually. A national survey of early childhood educators who work with children with fragile X syndrome is also conducted. Data is used to: (1) characterize developmental patterns in the acquisition of speech (i.e., phonology) and language (i.e., grammar, semantics, and pragmatics) during the preschool years; (2) identify which factors within the child (e.g., intellectual level, history of ear infections, joint attention, autistic symptomatology) and the environment (e.g., linguistic characteristics, parental interaction style) contribute to the development of communication skills; and (3) suggest early intervention strategies based on the identified patterns of development that promote the communication development of males with fragile X syndrome.

Further Development of a Lower Limb Prosthetic Socket CAD System Based on Ultrasound Measurement

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Project Number: H133G60110
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000
Abstract: This project has four objectives: (1) to improve the performance of an ultrasound-based computer-aided socket design (CASD) system developed by this research team; (2) to enhance the utility of the system by developing and testing new devices and procedures for limb measurements using the system; (3) to conduct a clinical trial to evaluate the usefulness of the ultrasound-based CASD system in improving daily prosthetic socket design/fitting; and (4) to investigate applications of ultrasound measurements in finite-element modeling for the study of limb-prosthesis interaction.

Pressure Ulcer Prevention by Interactive Learning (P.U.P.I.L.)

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Project Number: H133G50067
Start Date: July 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $124,839; FY 96 $124,839; FY 97 $124,839
Other Funding: FY 95 $31,000 (Source: MetroHealth Center for Rehabilitation)
Abstract: This project assembles a set of materials for teaching pressure ulcer prevention, uses text, diagrams, animations, sound, and video; links existing material where possible with new resources where necessary; and converts the materials to digital format. Teaching programs are then written to provide access through a personal computer in a variety of interactive sequences. These sequences are customized, not only during design but also by interaction during use, for users with different learning abilities and requirements. The initial target group is people with disabilities at risk of developing pressure ulcers. However, the technology is well suited for customization for other uses such as training for nurses and other health professionals. The project plans to make the materials available to larger audiences and is producing a CD-ROM containing a set of teaching programs for institutions to train people with disabilities on how to prevent pressure ulcers. The project expects to distribute the CD-ROM nationally and to make selected portions available on computer networks.

Oregon

Longitudinal Analysis of Supported Education for Persons with Long-Term Mental Illness

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Project Number: H133G50038
Start Date: July 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $124,989; FY 96 $124,989; FY 97 $124,989
Abstract: This project is conducting a longitudinal analysis of three different adaptations of the supported education model. The sites include a clubhouse; a consumer-run, college-based support program; and a comprehensive college-based program that provides a range of education and support services. The sites are located in Stamford Connecticut, Quincy Massachusetts, and San Mateo California, respectively. The project is selecting 120 students to participate in the quantitative study and 24 of those are being selected for the qualitative study. As a result of this project, practitioners in the field can choose and develop supported education interventions that are most likely to enhance employment opportunities, improve the quality of life for people with mental illness, and support the recovery process.

Oregon

Women's Personal Assistance Services (PAS) Abuse Research Project

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Project Number: H133G70154
Start Date: July 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: The purpose of this project is to increase the identification, assessment, and response to abuse by formal and informal personal assistance service (PAS) providers of women with physical and physical and cognitive disabilities living independently in the community. The aims of the project: (1) develop culturally sensitive screening approaches to identify PAS abuse, (2) develop a culturally appropriate PAS abuse assessment protocol, and (3) develop culturally appropriate response strategies to prevent and manage PAS abuse. Culturally diverse participants assist in the development of these three aims. The study includes three phases, beginning with a focus group study of culturally diverse women with physical and cognitive disabilities. Phase II involves the use of findings from Phase I to develop and disseminate a survey of 260 culturally diverse females with disabilities drawn from four national organizations. Phase III involves the development and field testing of the effectiveness of the screening, assessment, and support protocols, the final product being a comprehensive package of PAS abuse prevention materials. The project plans to disseminate these materials on a national basis.

A Pilot Study for the Clinical Evaluation of Pressure-Relieving Seat Cushions for Elderly Stroke Patients

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Project Number: H133G70076
Start Date: July 1, 1997 **Length:** 24 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,643

Abstract: This project designs and tests the feasibility of a randomized clinical trial to determine the efficacy of pressure-relieving seat cushions for immobile, elderly stroke patients. Older people with disabilities who are immobile and, thus, spend their time either in bed or seated, are at risk for developing pressure ulcers. Commercial seat cushions intended to reduce the risk of sitting-induced pressure ulcers are available. The elderly population, however, is not customarily evaluated for seating and positioning needs or provided with the benefits of this technology. Reimbursement is not available, due in part to the fact that the effectiveness of this intervention has not been sufficiently demonstrated for this high-risk population, and these services and technology are not available. If these cushions are a successful intervention for increased comfort, improved quality of life, and pressure ulcer incidence rate reduction, the project plans to disseminate the findings and provide justification for third party funding. If successful, the project plans to increase the availability of seating and positioning services and products to this deserving population.

NIDRR Program Directory 1997

PALS: Postsecondary Adjustment, Literacy, and Socialization for Secondary Students with Mild/Moderate Disabilities

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Project Number: H133G70050
Start Date: September 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,946
Abstract: The purpose of this project is to conduct an upward extension of Peer Assisted Learning Strategies (PALS) to improve Postsecondary Adjustment, Literacy, and Socialization (PALS) for secondary students with mild and moderate disabilities (MMD): PALS for PALS. The goals are to improve literacy and numeracy, enhance socialization, and facilitate successful postsecondary adjustments for students with MMD who enter technical training and nonsupported work settings after high school. Development of this instructional approach is expected to contribute to high schools' capacity to provide comprehensive and effective programs for students with MMD.

Assessing the Impact of Managed Care on Rehabilitation Research

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Project Number: H133G70078
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 24 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $102,585

Abstract: Little empirical data is available to document the extent to which research capacity in rehabilitation fields has been affected by managed care. This project is designed to gather data that is used to assess the impact that managed care is having on rehabilitation research capacity. Research findings can be translated into recommendations for providing the "substitute" support that is vital in sustaining a research program which allows for ongoing progress toward the goal of optimal recovery from disabling illness and injury and full participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of life.

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A Non-Contact Wound Measurement System

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Project Number: H133G70103
Start Date: May 15, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: This project's objective is to develop and clinically validate a non-contacting wound assessment technology. Clinical assessment of the healing status of wounds, particularly chronic wounds, is a laborious task that is often qualitative rather than quantitative. The new assessment is expected to measure wound surface area and volume and assess the status of the wound healing process by measuring the size of the granulation tissue border in the wound and by determining the percentage of the wound area that is red, yellow, or black. This information could be of value in assessing the efficacy of treatments and tracking the progress of a wound that is healing. The study involves designing and building a digital camera-based prototype measurement system that makes quantitative wound assessments without touching the wound. Once the system is built, its accuracy first will be verified using models that represent wounds. After the accuracy of the system is established, a series of wounds will be evaluated by different caregivers to assess the sensitivity of the system and its reproducibility.

Promoting Choice and Self-Determination in Adults with Cognitive Disabilities: A Research and Demonstration Project

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Project Number: H133G50178
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $124,732; FY 96 $127,777; FY 97 $124,732

Abstract: The Arc, a national organization on mental retardation, in conjunction with affiliated chapters in Baltimore and Philadelphia, operates a project that conducts four research studies that: (1) explore the degree to which people with mental retardation and cognitive disabilities are self-determined and experience choices in their lives, (2) examine the effects of mental retardation level on the expression of self-determination, and (3) examine the effects of living and working environments on self-determination. Subsequently, project personnel develop and field test a self-directed, instructional program designed to enable adults with mental retardation to take a leading role in planning and decision-making meetings and overcome some of the barriers and stereotypes that limit self-determination in their lives. The project addresses questions that have been generated through The Arc's research efforts in the area of self-determination and cognitive disability and expands and revises materials developed by The Arc to enable students with disabilities to chair their own educational transition planning meeting.

An Examination of Resiliency and Risk in Young Children with Disabilities

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Principal Investigator: Mark Innocenti
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Project Number: H133G60033
Start Date: September 1, 1996 **Length:** 24 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $111,226; FY 97 $108,560

Abstract: The project began with the database of the Early Intervention Follow-Up Institute at Utah State University. After an extensive review of the resiliency literature, analysis proceeds as follows: (1) examine the effect of individual risk/protective factors on child development outcomes; (2) analyze the cumulative effect of risk factors on child development among children who have developmental disabilities; (3) longitudinally explore risk/protective factors of early childhood that may account for later characteristics of resiliency; and (4) after integrating the findings of the first three studies, construct and test a general model of resiliency, using structural equation modeling. The four studies provide comprehensive information about the risk and resiliency factors affecting young children with disabilities.

Longitudinal Study of Early Intervention Costs, Effects, and Benefits for Medically Fragile Infants, Children with Disabilities, and Their Families

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Principal Investigator: Linda Goetze, PhD
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Project Number: H133G70190
Start Date: June 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,996

Abstract: The goal of this project is to gather descriptive longitudinal information on a well-characterized sample of medically fragile infants, children with disabilities, and their families to evaluate the effects and cost benefits of varying levels of early intervention. No comparable data sets exist. The 400 subjects the investigators are to re-evaluate currently range in age from 7 to 16 years. The current longitudinal study has already examined the costs of the various levels of intervention that were employed when the study subjects were preschool-aged. The research methodology has the capacity to judge the effectiveness of various models of intervention (e.g., parent involvement), as well as the economic benefits of those models.

Access Solutions

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Principal Investigator: Henrietta B. Jordan
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Project Number: H133G60046
Start Date: August 15, 1996 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $125,000; FY 97 $125,000

Abstract: The Vermont Center for Independent Living, in conjunction with Bike Track, Inc., is developing and testing a new system for building modular, reusable, and highly durable access ramps using a newly developed, non-toxic material made from recycled plastic. The ramp system's performance, material, and elements are field tested in a variety of settings and in a wide range of climatic conditions. The results of this project are: (1) the development, testing, and evaluation of an innovative technology for building access ramps; and (2) dissemination of the findings of the project among builders, ADA compliance experts, and consumers.

Impact of the Home-and Community-Based Waiver on Employment Outcomes of Individuals with Disabilities

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Project Number: H133G50110
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joyce Y. Caldwell
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $117,316; FY 96 $117,316; FY 97 $117,316
Abstract: The Medicaid Home-and Community-Based (HCB) Waiver program has had a profound impact on residential placement patterns. However, the HCB Waiver program has had far less impact on improving employment opportunities, particularly supported competitive employment, for people with severe disabilities. The purpose of this project is to determine the national status of state use of HCB Waivers to fund supported employment, identify artificial barriers and obstacles to funding supported employment through HCB Waivers to eligible Medicaid beneficiaries, and identify successful policy and implementation strategies that states have employed to access this funding source for supported employment expansion. The findings and recommendations generated from this study provide useful information for state systems, provider agencies, and consumers to use the HCB Waiver program to expand supported employment service access, reduce waiting lists for services, and promote quality services for Medicaid beneficiaries.

Informed Prescription of Stimulant Drugs for ADHD: An Innovative Computer-Based Training Program

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Project Number: H133G50148
Start Date: July 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $124,058; FY 96 $124,058; FY 97 $124,252

Abstract: Estimates suggest that more than three million children are affected with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and its related disturbances in school performance and social relationships. In determining the efficacy of a stimulant as an adjunct to treatment, single-subject, double-blind placebo, crossover studies can provide objective information. Yet, physicians have been reluctant to implement such trials because of perceived complexity, time constraints, and difficulties in analyzing and interpreting behavioral outcome data. This project overcomes these barriers by developing and field testing a new, simplified protocol for conducting such individualized trials of medication, such as Ritalin, in primary care settings. Components of the protocol include: (1) computer-accessible background material on ADHD for parents and professionals; (2) detailed instruction packets for parents, pharmacists, teachers, and physicians; and (3) an innovative computer data management system providing a clear summary of results in a format that facilitates decision making. Following field testing among physicians in practice and in training, the protocol (computer software) is disseminated nationally.

Novel Prosthetic Foot Design Method to Improve Metabolic Efficiency of BK Amputee Gait

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Project Number: H133G70038
Start Date: May 1, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $121,550

Abstract: This hypothesis examines the concept that to use a prosthesis optimally, energy must be stored and released over the proper time interval to meet kinetic requirements of gait. Despite recent improvements in the materials used to construct lower limb prostheses, further improvements in prosthetic foot design could result in increased function, endurance, improved vocational and recreational opportunities, and improved quality of life for people with below-knee amputations. The intent of this research is to test the hypothesis that the metabolic cost of ambulation is minimized in people with below knee amputations wearing energy restoring prostheses, when the driving frequency of oscillation (dictated by ambulation speed) matches the resonant frequency of the prosthesis (dictated by prosthesis stiffness and user mass). The hypothesis can be described another way: when the foot contact time on the ground (dictated by ambulation speed) matches the time period over which the prosthesis compresses and extends when it is allowed to do so in a natural or unrestrained fashion (i.e., at resonance), the energy cost will be minimized. The long-term objectives of this study are: (1) to provide a rational basis for the design of energy-storing lower limb prostheses, and (2) to improve the function of people with lower limb amputations through increased metabolic efficiency of ambulation.

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Seeking, Screening, Evaluating, Describing, and Disseminating Approaches Used by Two-Year Colleges to Serve Rehabilitation Services Clients with Severe/Multiple Functional Limitations in Highly Effective Ways

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Principal Investigator: John Gugerty
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Project Number: H133G70073
Start Date: June 15, 1997 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $124,904

Abstract: This project expects to improve the ability of two-year colleges to serve rehabilitation clients and other students with severe/multiple functional limitations. Community colleges and technical colleges offer opportunities for students to learn skills that pay a living wage, and they are the postsecondary education venue of choice for state and federal rehabilitation services professionals when their clients' Individualized Written Rehabilitation Programs (IWRPs) call for skill training. Two-year colleges would benefit greatly if they had ready access to current, detailed descriptions of highly effective approaches other two-year colleges use to serve individuals with severe and multiple functional limitations. The project plans to serve rehabilitation professionals, parents, individuals with severe and multiple limitations, special educators, vocational educators, and regular educators who wish to: (1) address and solve the continuing unemployment and underemployment problems of individuals with severe/multiple functional limitations, and (2) strengthen the approaches used by two-year colleges to serve rehabilitation clients and other students with severe/multiple functional limitations. The project plans to obtain information, synthesize it, make it widely and readily available in print, electronic, and other alternative formats, and provide training and technical assistance to individuals wishing to replicate or adapt these approaches.

7

MODEL SPINAL CORD INJURY SYSTEMS

This program provides assistance to establish innovative projects for the delivery, demonstration, and evaluation of comprehensive medical, vocational, and other rehabilitation services to meet the wide range of needs of individuals with spinal cord injuries.

Model Spinal Cord Injury System

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jackson@sun.rehabm.uab.edu
http://www.sci.rehabm.uab.edu/docs/modeluab.htm

Principal Investigator: Amie B. Jackson, MD
Contact Phone: 205/934-3330 (V); 205/934-4642 (TTY); Fax: 205/975-4691

Project Number: H133N50009
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: This project is a research and demonstration model of a comprehensive service-delivery system from point of injury through intensive and acute medical care, rehabilitation management, and long-term community follow-up. Emphasis is on collaborative clinical research to solve the medical management and acute rehabilitation problems of people with spinal cord injury. A national SCI statistical center has also been established to coordinate data collection.

Model Spinal Cord Injury System

Los Amigos Research and Education Institute, Inc. (LAREI)
Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center
7601 East Imperial Highway, HB117
Downey, CA 90242-4155

Principal Investigator: Robert L. Waters, MD
562/401-7048
Contact Phone: 562/401-7161; Fax: 562/803-5623

Project Number: H133N50020
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: This project is a research and demonstration model of a comprehensive service-delivery system from point of injury through intensive and acute medical care, rehabilitation management, and long-term community follow-up. The scope of work emphasizes collaborative clinical research to solve the medical management and acute rehabilitation problems of spinal cord injury. The model system concept has been maintained for continued study of service delivery.

Northern California Model Spinal Cord Injury System

Santa Clara Valley Medical Center (SCVMC)
Medical Staff Corporation
950 South Bascom Avenue, Suite 2011
San Jose, CA 95128
tbisciproj@aol.com
http://www.tbi-sci-org

Principal Investigator: Peter C. Werner, MD; Karyl M. Hall, EdD
408/885-2000
Contact Phone: 408/295-9896, ext. 16; Fax: 408/295-9913

Project Number: H133N50003
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000
Abstract: The project is continuing its multidisciplinary system, providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to meet consumer needs from point of injury (emergency treatment and transportation) through acute care, rehabilitation (vocational and education preparation), community and job placement, and long-term follow-up. The project is: (1) demonstrating and evaluating the development and application of improved methods and equipment essential to the care, management, and rehabilitation of the SCI patient; (2) demonstrating methods of community outreach and education for individuals with spinal cord injuries in injury prevention, housing, transportation, recreation, employment, and other community activities; and (3) conducting collaborative and site-specific research on spinal cord injury, its consequences and outcomes, and innovative methods of treatment, including national database studies.

Colorado

Rocky Mountain Regional Spinal Injury System

Craig Hospital
3425 South Clarkson Street
Englewood, CO 80110
gale@craig-hospital.org
http://www.craig-hospital.org/rehab

Principal Investigator: Daniel P. Lammertse, MD
303/789-8220 (V)
Public Contact: Scott Manley, EdD
Contact Phone: 303/789-8214 (V); 303/789-8575 (TTY); Fax: 303/789-8219

Project Number: H133N50001
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000
Abstract: This project is a research and demonstration model of a comprehensive service-delivery system from point of injury through intensive and acute medical care, rehabilitation management, and long-term community follow-up. The scope of work emphasizes collaborative clinical research to solve the medical management and acute rehabilitation problems of spinal cord injury. The model system concept has been maintained for continued study of service delivery.

Georgia Regional Model Spinal Cord Injury Care System

Shepherd Center, Inc.
2020 Peachtree Road Northwest
Atlanta, GA 30309
lesley_hudson@shepherd.org
http://www.shepherd.org

Principal Investigator: David F. Apple Jr., MD
Public Contact: Lesley M. Hudson, MA, Project Co-Director
Contact Phone: 404/350-7580; Fax: 404/355-1826

Project Number: H133N50022
Start Date: September 30, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000
Abstract: The Georgia Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System is part of a 100-bed specialty hospital, Shepherd Center, in Atlanta Georgia. It has been a member of the model system since 1982, and during the current five-year funding period, it is conducting detailed data collection on individuals who meet the inclusion criteria (approximately 100 per year). Data is being shared with the National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center at the University of Alabama/Birmingham. The research component of this project is based on a large collaborative effort on gender-and culture-sensitive issues in care delivery. Additionally, a site-specific project on violence-related injuries is under way. Finally, the Georgia system participates in five additional collaborative efforts being directed by other members of the 18-facility system.

Illinois

Model Spinal Cord Injury System

Northwestern University
Northwestern Memorial Hospital
250 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 619
Chicago, IL 60611
interspace@nwu.edu
http://www.nwu.edu/spine

Principal Investigator: Paul R. Meyer Jr., MD, MM
Public Contact: Jarmila Kajuch
Contact Phone: 312/908-3425; Fax: 312/908-1819

Project Number: H133N50002
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: The Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System (MRSCICS) incorporates comprehensive medical-surgical acute spinal cord injury care within Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and a comprehensive rehabilitation and vocational patient care program within the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. Both activities fall under the umbrella of Northwestern University. The system's priorities include clinical spinal cord care and academic research through the search for new scientific knowledge effecting improved patient care and enhanced neurological recovery.

Model Spinal Cord Injury Systems

Special Projects and Demonstrations for Spinal Cord Injuries

Boston University Medical Center Hospital
New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center
One Boston Medical Center Plaza, F-511
Boston, MA 02118
scictr@bu.edu

Principal Investigator: Mel B. Glenn, MD
617/638-7300
Public Contact: Stanley H. Ducharme, PhD
Contact Phone: 617/638-7358; Fax: 617/638-7313

Project Number: H133N50014
Start Date: September 15, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $445,271
Other Funding: FY 96 $46,623 (Sources: Boston University Medical Center Hospital, Boston Violence Prevention Program)
Abstract: This project is demonstrating a strong, comprehensive system of care for people with spinal cord injury (SCI) with special emphasis on: (1) an innovative approach to managed and primary care for Medicaid recipients; (2) an ongoing commitment to the urban community within which the New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury System resides; (3) the development of a violence prevention program to assist with the community reintegration of youth with SCI caused by intentional violence; and (4) the education of providers, consumers, vocational counselors, and payers with respect to the practical use of assistive technology.

Michigan

Southeastern Michigan Spinal Cord Injury System

Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan
261 Mack Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48201

Principal Investigator: Bruce Becker, MD
Contact Phone: 313/745-9770; Fax: 313/993-0808

Project Number: H133N50006
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: The Southeastern Michigan Spinal Cord Injury System is a research and demonstration model of a comprehensive system of spinal cord injury (SCI) care, from point of injury through emergency services, acute medical care at Detroit Receiving Hospital, rehabilitation management at the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan, and long-term community follow-up. The scope of work includes evaluation of the costs and benefits of this system, contribution to the national database of the SCI model systems, and collaborative and local research to solve medical management and rehabilitation problems.

University of Michigan Model Spinal Cord Injury System

University of Michigan
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
300 North Ingalls, Room NI2A09
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0491
model.sci@umich.edu
http://www.med.umich.edu/pmr/model_sci

Principal Investigator: Denise G. Tate, PhD; Theodore M. Cole, MD
Public Contact: Rosalie Karunas, MPH, Project Coordinator
Contact Phone: 313/763-0971; Fax: 313/936-5492

Project Number: H133N50012
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: This project demonstrates and evaluates the comprehensive system of lifetime care provided by the University of Michigan Medical Center beginning at the time of injury. Research to expand current knowledge needed to improve rehabilitation and community integration outcomes is conducted in an environment employing a participatory action research model that addresses the universe of disability and contemporary issues. Improved methods of SCI service and equipment are demonstrated and evaluated through utilization of technology, outcomes prediction, and family/consumer empowerment. Access to and utilization of services and research information are promoted by collaboration in national studies and by outreach and educational efforts targeting people with SCI, their families, and professionals and students of rehabilitation and related fields. A model for providing independent living follow-up services to enhance community reintegration, established at the U-M Medical Center in 1985, is demonstrated and evaluated in collaboration with five other Model SCI Systems. Further research activities focus on family function as a predictor of independence, employment, and relationship of neurogenic pain to function.

Model Spinal Cord Injury Systems

Missouri

Missouri Model Spinal Cord Injury System

University of Missouri/Columbia
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
DC046.00
One Hospital Drive, UMC
Columbia, MO 65212
kristofer_hagglund@pmr.missouri.edu
http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/som/pmr/momscis/momscis.htm

Principal Investigator: Kristofer Hagglund, PhD
573/882-6271 (V)
Public Contact: Joanne Willett
Contact Phone: 573/884-7972 (V); 573/882-4936 (TTY); Fax: 573/884-4540

Project Number: H133N50005
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000
Abstract: This project is a research and demonstration model of a comprehensive, community-based service-delivery system for people with spinal cord injury (SCI), from point of injury through community integration. The model emphasizes consumer involvement in all aspects of care and collaboration with local, community-based organizations to facilitate independent living. The scope of work also emphasizes development of innovative health care, rehabilitation, and community outreach delivery systems for women, racial and ethnic minorities, and rural populations. Research focuses on evaluation of the costs and efficiency of the model and its ability to improve quality of life for people with SCI, family, and significant others. Training, dissemination of information, and contribution to the national database of the SCI model systems are integral components of the project.

Northern New Jersey Model Spinal Cord Injury System

University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Medical School
Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation
1199 Pleasant Valley Way
West Orange, NJ 07052

Principal Investigator: Joel A. DeLisa, MD
Contact Phone: 973/243-6805; Fax: 973/243-6861

Project Number: H133N50013
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000
Abstract: The Northern New Jersey Model Spinal Cord Injury System demonstrates and evaluates multidisciplinary, comprehensive rehabilitation services to meet patient needs beginning with prevention and emergency medical services and extending through intensive care, acute care, and medical rehabilitation, to long-term follow-up, community reintegration, and vocational rehabilitation. The model system incorporates a well-formulated violence prevention program, a comprehensive substance abuse treatment and prevention program, an innovative spiritual counseling program, and a roving symposium program emphasizing independent living. Clinical research, including controlled studies of innovative new programs, is emphasized to improve the outcomes of spinal cord injury survivors.

New York

Mount Sinai Spinal Cord Injury Model System

Mount Sinai Medical Center
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine
One Gustave L. Levy Place, Box 1240
New York, NY 10029
http://www.mssm.edu/rehab/home-page.html

Principal Investigator: Kristjan T. Ragnarsson, MD
Contact Phone: 212/241-9654; Fax: 212/348-5901

Project Number: H133N50008
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000
Abstract: The Mount Sinai Spinal Cord Injury Model System demonstrates and evaluates multidisciplinary, comprehensive rehabilitation services to meet patient needs from point of injury through acute care; rehabilitation, including vocational and educational preparation; community and job placement; long-term follow-up; and community reintegration, with emphasis on peer mentoring, advocacy, and health promotion/wellness.

Northeast Ohio Regional Spinal Cord Injury System

Case Western Reserve University
MetroHealth Medical Center
2500 MetroHealth Drive
Cleveland, OH 44109
fsf@po.cwru.edu; mroach@metrohealth.org
http://www.metrohealth.org/clinical/NORSCIS/

Principal Investigator: Frederick S. Frost, MD
Public Contact: Mary Jo Roach, PhD
Contact Phone: 216/778-8781; Fax: 216/778-8782

Project Number: H133N50018
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000
Abstract: The objectives of this project relate to three major goals in the field of spinal cord injury care: (1) to develop and study effective new *solutions* to problems, not the problems themselves; (2) to promote consumer-driven change in a fragmented and cumbersome service-delivery system; and (3) to place appropriate emphasis on solving problems that arrive during the chronic phase of SCI. Activities of this project: (1) develop and demonstrate a comprehensive system of spinal cord injury care delivery; (2) demonstrate and evaluate creative means by which consumers with disabilities can organize and promote models of service delivery in an environment of managed medical care; (3) develop an innovative method aimed at improving community reintegration outcomes for people who are disadvantaged by minority or economic status; (4) participate fully and effectively in the collaborative data collection research effort of the Model Regional SCI Care System Program of NIDRR; (5) focus on means by which benefits of provided services can be measured concurrently with an analysis of cost implication of service delivery; and (6) broaden and strengthen educational offerings made available to consumers, service delivery providers, and the general public.

Model Spinal Cord Injury System

Thomas Jefferson University
Jefferson Medical College
11th and Walnut Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Principal Investigator: John F. Ditunno Jr., MD
Public Contact: Mary Call, RN, Data Coordinator
Contact Phone: 215/955-6579; Fax: 215/955-5152

Project Number: H133N50021
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: This system conducts patient care, research, and education for people with traumatic spinal cord injury. Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and Magee Rehabilitation Hospital in Philadelphia work to provide a continuum of coordinated services to the people in southeastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, and northern Delaware.

Model Spinal Cord Injury System

The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR)
1333 Moursund Avenue
Houston, TX 77030
khart@bcm.tmc.edu

Principal Investigator: R. E. Carter, MD
713/797-5910 (V)
Public Contact: Karen A. Hart, PhD
Contact Phone: 713/797-5946 (V); 713/797-5790 (TTY); Fax: 713/797-5982

Project Number: H133N50007
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000
Abstract: Within a system-wide research environment, this multidisciplinary service system: (1) demonstrates and evaluates services and the costs and benefits of those services, (2) demonstrates and evaluates the application of improved methods and equipment, (3) demonstrates methods of community outreach and education, and (4) participates in national studies of the benefits of a spinal cord injury (SCI) service system. This system addresses projects related to: violence-related spinal cord injuries; maximizing interactions with independent living centers; substance abuse among individuals with SCI; disability and rehabilitation-related problems of people with SCI from minority backgrounds; the role of families and personal advocacy in successful community reintegration; and adoption of the SCI systems model of care into the practice of regular health care delivery. This system houses the database of all presentations and educational materials developed by the nationwide network of Model Spinal Cord Injury System centers.

VCU/MCV Spinal Cord Injured (SCI) Model System

Virginia Commonwealth University
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Box 980661
Richmond, VA 23298-0661
wmckinley@gems.vcu.edu
http://views.vcu.edu/html/pmr/sci

Principal Investigator: William O. McKinley, MD
804/828-0861
Public Contact: John Musgrove, Research Specialist
Contact Phone: 804/225-4344; Fax: 804/828-5704

Project Number: H133N50015
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: The Virginia Commonwealth University/Medical College of Virginia (VCU/MCV) Model System of Care for individuals with spinal cord injury merges the best available health care practices with an underlying foundation of consumer advocacy, patient education, and individual consumer empowerment. The VCU/MCV Model System project consists of six individual subprojects: Clinical Pathway Outcomes for SCI, Innovative Medical Issues, Dual Disability: Concomitant SCI and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Community Reintegration, Consumer Advocacy, and Substance Abuse. The project: (1) explores clinical pathway outcomes across the continuum of care; (2) evaluates innovative medical issues related to SCI using interactive computer-based education; (3) delineates the incidence of, and formulates management strategies for the rehabilitation of people with the dual diagnosis of SCI and TBI; (4) institutes several community integration projects in the areas of transportation, return to work, and recreation for people with SCI; (5) develops a statewide network for advocacy for people with disability; and (6) identifies incidences and treatment strategies for people with SCI and substance abuse.

Northwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury System

University of Washington School of Medicine
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine
Box 356490
Seattle, WA 98195-6490
rehab@u.washington.edu
http://weber.u.washington.edu/~rehab/sci

Principal Investigator: Diana D. Cardenas, MD
Contact Phone: 206/543-8171; Fax: 206/685-3244

Project Number: H133N50025
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: The Northwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury System demonstrates and evaluates: (1) multidisciplinary, comprehensive rehabilitation services to meet patient needs from point of injury through acute care; (2) rehabilitation, including vocational and educational preparation; (3) community and job placement; and (4) long-term follow-up.

Wisconsin

Model Construct for Community Integration in SCI

Medical College of Wisconsin
Spinal Cord Injury Center
Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital
9200 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53226
denmaim@aol.com
http://www.mcw.edu/spinal

Principal Investigator: Dennis Maiman, MD; Irma Fiedler, PhD
414/259-3645; 414/456-7324
Public Contact: Traci Tymus, MS, CRC, CIRS, Project Coordinator
Contact Phone: 414/259-2109; Fax: 414/258-2407

Project Number: H133N50024
Start Date: October 1, 1995 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $373,000; FY 96 $373,000; FY 97 $373,000

Abstract: This project emphasizes and integrates the major research areas relating to SCI through a series of demonstration projects. The Model Construct developed from the projects permits significant growth of the Spinal Cord Injury Center (SCIC) of the Medical College of Wisconsin as a nationally designated center of research, education, and clinical service permitting further enhancement of the vision of the Center. It allows the extension of the Center's services, supports the SCIC's participation in collaborative research with the model systems network, and promotes the centralization of data from a unique clinical program. The individual demonstration projects contribute to overall federal objectives and address problems identified with the research, demonstration services, or data collection aspects of the model SCI system. In the Substance Abuse and Community Reintegration project and the Sexuality project, alterations in clinical approaches are based on the results of the projects. In the other two, the nature of the activities, in and of themselves, change current treatment. Dissemination of the results of the demonstration projects, the participation in database collection, and national collaborative studies integrate the role of SCI management in the state of Wisconsin.

8

RESEARCH TRAINING GRANTS

The purpose of this program is to expand capability in the field of rehabilitation research by supporting projects that provide advanced training in rehabilitation research. These projects provide research training and experience at an advanced level to individuals with doctoral or similar advanced degrees who have clinical or other relevant experience, including experience in management or basic science research, in fields pertinent to rehabilitation, in order to qualify those individuals to conduct independent research on problems related to disability and rehabilitation.

The Ed Roberts Fellowships in Disability and Rehabilitation Research

University of California/Berkeley
School of Public Health
410 Warren Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-7360
len-duhl@socrates.berkeley.edu; devva@wid.org

Principal Investigator: Len Duhl, MD
510/642-1715 (V)
Public Contact: Devva Kasnitz, Project Manager
Contact Phone: 510/251-4348 (V, WID); 510/208-9493 (TTY, WID); Fax: 510/763-4109; 510/643-6981 (Duhl)

Project Number: H133P50005
Start Date: April 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Delores Watkins
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $149,900; FY 96 $149,900; FY 97 $149,000

Abstract: The Fellowships program supports the career development and professional research of promising leaders in the field of disability and rehabilitation research with an emphasis on personal, sociocultural, and environmental urban issues. The definition of disability for this project is very broad. Through a combination of academic coursework, collaborative and independent research projects, community collaboration, and internships and mentor relationships, fellows have the opportunity to develop new skills and knowledge in disability studies and independent living research, including qualitative, quantitative, and applied research methods and approaches that substantially involve members of the study population. The program supports a graduate and an undergraduate course team taught by project faculty and fellows.

Interdisciplinary Research Training in Rehabilitation Technology

Applied Science and Engineering Laboratories
University of Delaware
duPont Hospital for Children
1600 Rockland Road
P.O. Box 269
Wilmington, DE 19899
foulds@asel.udel.edu
http://www.asel.udel.edu

Principal Investigator: Richard A. Foulds, PhD
Public Contact: Julia Mercier
Contact Phone: 302/651-6830 (V); 302/651-6834 (TTY); Fax: 302/651-6895

Project Number: H133P30003
Start Date: January 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $175,000; FY 94 $175,000; FY 95 $175,000; FY 96 $175,000; FY 97 $175,000

Abstract: Individuals who have received a doctorate in a scientific or clinical field are accepted into this training program and participate in research activities that enhance their research skills. These, in turn, strengthen the national effort to establish a comprehensive service-delivery system that meets the needs of people with disabilities. Each fellow identifies an individual research project, participates with the Applied Science and Engineering Laboratories (ASEL) research team, and participates in both laboratory and clinical experiences. The project also allows for visiting scholars, travel by fellows to major professional and regional meetings, and publication of research findings. At the end of their training in rehabilitation, the fellows are assisted by ASEL staff in securing employment in a clinical or educational setting.

Doctoral Training in Physical Therapy

University of Iowa
Physical Therapy Graduate Program
2600 Steindler Building
Iowa City, IA 52242-1008
http://www.vh.org/Welcome/UIHC/UIHCMedDepts/PhysicalTherapy/PTProg/PtProg.html

Principal Investigator: David H. Nielsen, PhD, PT
Contact Phone: 319/335-9791; Fax: 319/335-9707

Project Number: H133P20018
Start Date: June 1, 1992 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $145,891; FY 93 $145,891; FY 94 $148,097; FY 95 $150,000; FY 96 $150,000; FY 97 (No-cost extension)
Abstract: This project supports five physical therapist trainees for three years and five other physical therapist trainees for the first two years of their doctoral program of study at the University of Iowa. The long-term goal is to increase the supply of physical therapists who have both the clinical experience and advanced skills required to conduct effective rehabilitation research. Specifically, the student must: (1) be able to perform original scholarship and research that advances the understanding of physical therapy clinical practice; (2) have comprehensive knowledge of theoretical and research literature in areas of specialization; (3) be skilled in the application of basic and advanced concepts in the area of cardiopulmonary, ergonomic, musculoskeletal, or neuromuscular physical therapy; and (4) be able to teach at the basic professional, master's degree, and doctoral levels of physical therapy education.

Kansas

Rehabilitation Research Training Program

University of Kansas
Beach Center on Families and Disability
Special Education Department
3111 Haworth Hall
Lawrence, KS 66045

Principal Investigator: Ann Turnbull, EdD
Contact Phone: 913/864-7608; Fax: 913/864-5825

Project Number: H133P70004
Start Date: July 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $150,000
Abstract: Over a five-year period this program trains 11 new researchers: five postdoctoral fellows and six doctoral students/trainees. The project increases the quantity of new researchers and ensures their competency along family-systems, life-span, and multicultural dimensions. Focusing on families whose members have disabilities, the scholars will be capable of conducting independent research related to: (1) those families; (2) rehabilitation and special education agencies, systems, and processes; and (3) minority families and individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds who are served by those systems. The fellows collaborate with faculty from the Beach Center, Special Education Department, and other faculty in learning and conducting disability and family research for a full year. The trainees take their PhD degrees in special education, majoring in family and disability studies and minoring in research methodologies.

The Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of a Research Training Program in Psychiatric Rehabilitation

Boston University
Sargent College of Allied Health Professions
Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation
930 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
erogers@bu.edu
http://web.bu.edu/SARPSYCH

Principal Investigator: Sally E. Rogers
Contact Phone: 617/353-3549 (V); Fax: 617/353-7700

Project Number: H133P70014
Start Date: March 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Roseann Rafferty
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $147,489

Abstract: In this program, six individuals who possess doctoral-level clinical training are recruited and provided with a broad-based, intensive 27-month training fellowship in rehabilitation research. To provide an optimal training experience, three fellows are in residence at a time. Each fellow gains competency in the following areas: psychiatric rehabilitation, research design/methodology, statistics, consumer issues (as they relate to applied research), the conduct of applied rehabilitation research, computer literacy, and grant and professional writing.

The UMMC/MSU/AACIL Research Training Model

University of Michigan
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Medicine
Rehabilitation Psychology
1H241 - University Hospital
1500 East Medical Center Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0050
dgtate@umich.edu

Principal Investigator: Denise G. Tate, PhD
Contact Phone: 313/936-7052; Fax: 313/936-7048

Project Number: H133P30006
Start Date: September 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $175,000; FY 94 $218,767; FY 95 $175,000; FY 96 $175,000; FY 97 $175,000

Abstract: Emphasizing the participatory action research (PAR) process, this multidisciplinary research training program in disability, independent living, and rehabilitation draws upon faculty and resources from both universities and the AACIL to train postdoctoral-level professionals in rehabilitation research issues and methodologies. The program focuses on training related to applied research to provide information that improves the lives of people with disabilities. It also focuses on fundamental research designed to go beyond the immediate applied focus and produce generalizable new information and knowledge contributing to relevant theory development in rehabilitation.

Research Enrichment Program for Physiatrists

University of Missouri/Columbia
Missouri Arthritis RRTC
MA427 Health Sciences Center
One Hospital Drive, UMC
Columbia, MO 65212
susan_hazelwood@mailsvr.hsc.missouri.edu
http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/arthritis; http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/fibro

Principal Investigator: Jerry C. Parker, PhD
573/443-2511, ext. 6775
Public Contact: Susan Hazelwood, Research Associate
Contact Phone: 573/882-8096; Fax: 573/884-5689

Project Number: H133P50007
Start Date: March 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $146,000; FY 96 $146,000; FY 97 $147,000

Abstract: This project trains a total of 30 physiatry residents and junior faculty in the basic methodological skills and academic values required to conduct independent research projects. Participants in enrichment programs travel periodically to a central location (or locations) to receive intensive enrichment experiences. Participants are carefully mentored through the successive steps required for an independent research project. Through the use of carefully designed teaching modules and individualized instruction, ten participants per year are guided through the steps of an independent research project, including understanding research design, developing skills for statistical collaboration, preparing research manuscripts, presenting at scientific meetings, understanding peer review procedures, and applying for extramural funds. Scholarships are used to cover travel expenses for participants, and research accounts are used to defray the expenses associated with data collection. Over the course of one year, participants travel to six centralized training locations. Participants are required to plan and implement a thesis-like project in their home institutions and to present their research findings.

Advanced Multidisciplinary Training Program in Rehabilitation Outcomes Research

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University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Medical School
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
150 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ 07103
mark_v_johnston@compuserve.com

Principal Investigator: Mark Johnston
973/731-3600, ext. 4736; Fax: 973/414-4738

Project Number: H133P70011
Start Date: March 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Theresa San Agustin, MD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $149,608
Abstract: Outcomes research designates a group of interrelated scientific methodologies and domains of knowledge that address issues of the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of rehabilitation in practice. This project redesigns the research training program to address the scientific basis of patient outcomes and the effectiveness of rehabilitation in practice. Three areas of research and training, each with several specific training tracks under experienced research mentors, include: (1) general outcomes and rehabilitation services research, including functional assessment, practice guidelines, disability economics, health policy, and disability sociology; (2) studies of community intervention programs, including outpatient clinics, primary care, independent living programs, geriatric rehabilitation, and alternative medicine; and (3) medical and neuropsychological outcomes research, involving study of specific pathologies or interventions and their relationships to functional outcomes. The program provides advanced research training to three or more PhD or MD fellows each year, usually for a 2-year term; a predoctoral student at the dissertation level may also be supported. The program is multidisciplinary, including all of the major disciplines associated with rehabilitation and with outcomes research.

Research Training in Engineering and Rehabilitation Technology

University of Pittsburgh
Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology
5034 Forbes Tower
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
c.robinson@ieee.org

Principal Investigator: Charles J. Robinson, DSc, PE
Contact Phone: 412/647-1272; Fax: 412/647-1277

Project Number: H133P30002
Start Date: June 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $175,000; FY 94 $175,000; FY 95 $175,000; FY 96 $175,000; FY 97 $175,000
Abstract: Since its start in 1993, this grant has supported 14 pre- and postdoctoral fellows. Each predoctoral student was supported for up to two-and-one-half years. Each predoctoral fellow could attend four terms of classes and carry out one and one-half years of research. All predoctoral fellows are required to pass their doctoral comprehensive exams within nine months and to prepare a research proposal before the end of the first year in the program. The two types of fellows are: (1) analytically trained individuals who have not previously done rehabilitation research, and (2) clinically experienced individuals within the rehabilitation field. Ideally, the project goal is a nearly equal mix of engineers and clinical professionals at both the pre- and postdoctoral levels. Six individuals with disability and/or from minority backgrounds have served as fellows. Fellows have produced over 20 papers and book chapters, 28 conference abstracts, an additional 28 conference presentations, have won eight major awards, and so far have secured almost $2 million in external funding over the last three years. A new curriculum for training rehabilitation scientists and engineers is part of this project. This project is responsible for assisting in development of the PhD Program in Rehabilitation Sciences, the first in the country.

Pennsylvania

Research Training in Rehabilitation Science with Special Emphasis on Disability Studies

University of Pittsburgh
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Dean's Office, 4029 Forbes Tower
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
ceb1+@pitt.edu

Principal Investigator: Clifford Brubaker, PhD
Contact Phone: 412/647-1261; Fax: 412/647-1255

Project Number: H133P70013
Start Date: September 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Robert J Jaeger, PhD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $141,327

Abstract: This program provides a plan for research training in the emerging academic discipline of rehabilitation science. The program is based on a multidisciplinary approach to the study of topics and issues of relevance to people with disabilities. A primary goal is to develop an increased capacity for research in the general domain of rehabilitation science, and particularly in the area of disability studies; very important to increasing capacity is increasing the recruitment, admission, and training of people with disabilities. The program of study is based on a challenging curriculum of didactic instruction, clinical exposures, community interaction, and research experiences, and encompasses study and research over a spectrum of scientific, technical, psychosocial, physical, physiological, cultural, ethical, political, economic, and clinical issues.

Rehabilitation Research Training in Physical Therapy

Texas Woman's University
School of Physical Therapy
1130 M.D. Anderson Boulevard
Houston, TX 77030-2897

Principal Investigator: Elizabeth J. Protas, PhD; Maureen Simmonds, PhD
Contact Phone: 713/794-2069; Fax: 713/794-2162

Project Number: H133P50002
Start Date: September 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $150,199; FY 96 $150,199; FY 97 $150,199
Abstract: The purpose of this training project is to produce qualified individuals who are capable of conducting valid scientific research in rehabilitation. Participants are physical therapists who have well-defined interests in pursuing research careers in physical therapy. Four predoctoral student fellows are recruited for a three-year course of study leading to a PhD degree with a major in physical therapy. Fellows are selected on the basis of their interest in programmatic research conducted in one of the laboratories within the School of Physical Therapy. Those laboratories are actively engaged in investigating neuromuscular and musculoskeletal aspects of rehabilitation. In addition, each fellow is expected to participate in external projects conducted in conjunction with the laboratory. A plan of both process and outcome evaluation ensures the excellence of this training program.

Virginia

Research Training and Career Development Program

Virginia Commonwealth University
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Box 980542
Richmond, VA 23298-0542
jskreutzer@gems.vcu.edu

Principal Investigator: Jeffrey S. Kreutzer, PhD
Contact Phone: 804/828-0231; Fax: 804/828-2378

Project Number: H133P70003
Start Date: September 1, 1997 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Toby Lawrence
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $142,430

Abstract: The goal of this project is to benefit rehabilitation practice by increasing the number of highly skilled research professionals. Virginia Commonwealth University and Medical College of Virginia have developed a well-integrated network of clinical and research programs to help people with traumatic brain injury. Extensive on-campus resources include the nation's third largest teaching hospital, an NIH Head Injury Center, a Rehabilitation Research and Training Center, and NIDRR traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury model systems of care. The university system provides an excellent network of research, clinical care, and teaching resources. Program philosophy emphasizes interdisciplinary collaboration, creativity, quality, and diligence. Within the university network, the program provides an advanced rehabilitation research training program. The program provides training to individuals with advanced degrees who are committed to a career in rehabilitation. The research training program, built upon existing resources, emphasizes applied research. Interdisciplinary faculty include distinguished people representing fields within basic sciences, biostatistics and methodology, medicine, psychology, computing and telecommunications, allied health fields, and vocational rehabilitation.

Research Training in Rehabilitation Engineering

University of Virginia
School of Engineering and Applied Science
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Box 377, HSC
Charlottesville, VA 22908
jma@virginia.edu

Principal Investigator: J. Milton Adams
804/982-3079
Public Contact: Sherry Minutolo
Contact Phone: 804/924-5102; Fax: 804/982-3870

Project Number: H133P40002
Start Date: September 1, 1994 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $150,000; FY 95 $150,000; FY 96 $150,000; FY 97 (No-cost extension through 8/31/98)

Abstract: This research training program provides fellowships for doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows to study rehabilitation engineering. Doctoral students pursue the PhD degree in biomedical, electrical, or mechanical engineering and perform dissertation research in rehabilitation engineering. Postdoctoral fellows perform research with faculty in rehabilitation and may have a PhD or MD.

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SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATIVE RESEARCH—PHASE 1

New ideas and products useful to people with disabilities and the rehabilitation field are encouraged with small business innovative research grants. This three-phase program takes an idea from development to market readiness.

Development of a Lightweight, Portable, Easily-Assembled Scooter Lift-Carrier for Automobiles and Other Vehicles

ACCESS/ABILITIES
P.O. Box 458
Mill Valley, CA 94942

Principal Investigator: Ellen Leiber
415/388-3250; Fax: 415/383-8718

Project Number: RW97076014
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 6 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $49,905
Abstract: ACCESS/ABILITIES, in collaboration with the Veterans Administration Rehabilitation Research and Development Center, is developing a portable, lightweight, easy-to-assemble lift/carrier for 3-wheeled scooters that can be used with automobiles. Design selection is based on technical feasibility, commercial viability, physical practicality for users, and cost efficiency, using technical data on scooter specifications gathered from manufacturers. Three design approaches are considered.

California

Hiking Trails Web Site with Universal Access Information

Beneficial Designs, Inc.
5858 Empire Grade
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
mail@beneficialdesigns.com
http://www.beneficialdesigns.com

Principal Investigator: Peter W. Axelson, MSME; Denise A. Chesney, MEBME
408/429-8447; Fax: 408/423-8450

Project Number: RW97076011
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 6 months
NIDRR Officer: William Peterson
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $49,937

Abstract: Although many people with disabilities enjoy visiting outdoor parks and recreational areas, obtaining information about the accessibility of outdoor trails is currently difficult. The goal of the Trails Web site is to provide universal access information for trails throughout the United States that is useful to all hikers, regardless of their ability. The Universal Trails Assessment Process enables trail managers to assess specific trails objectively with regard to grade, cross slope, width, surface characteristics, and obstacles. The collected trail data is processed to create Trail Access Information in a format similar to the Nutritional Facts food label. The objectives of Phase I are to develop the Web site and trail access information database, to collect and enter trail access information, and to evaluate its effectiveness through online evaluations. The Web site allows users to search for trails that meet their specific access needs. The site also contains links to other Web sites with related information. Trail access information obtained remotely allows Web site users to plan appropriate outdoor travel by being able to determine in advance where they can hike.

Integration of Voice Input and CD-ROM Technology to Provide English-to-Sign-Language Translation for Use on the Job

Computer Multimedia Productions Corporation
4707 - 140th Avenue North, Suite 203
Clearwater, FL 33762
hilla@cmpc.com
http://www.cmpc.com

Principal Investigator: Barbara L. Loeding, PhD; Hill Abrahams
Contact: Hill Abrahams
813/531-7279; Fax: 813/531-7498

Project Number: RW97076010
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 6 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $49,990

Abstract: A multimedia CD-ROM database is under development that capitalizes on speech input technology breakthroughs. Here, "multimedia" means use of digital video to play an image of a person signing in a window on the computer. Audio provides hearing individuals with appropriate feedback. Software allows a person to speak a sentence into a computer microphone, and have corresponding signs displayed back to back in a seamless fashion. The product will be called the *Sign Language Translator.* Research will determine the optimal user interface and whether the Translator significantly improves communication between deaf and hearing individuals. Potentially, this product will produce more fluent, accurate communication and more job placements for deaf clients/youth.

Signing Avatars

Seamless Solutions, Inc.
P.O. Box 780297
Orlando, FL 32878-0297
seamless@concentric.net
http://www.concentric.net/~seamless

Principal Investigator: Edward M. Sims, PhD
407/568-4924; Fax: 407/568-7571

Project Number: RW97076003
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 6 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $49,425

Abstract: This project uses virtual reality representations of a signer's face, arms, and hands, called "avatars," to enable sign language communication via standard phone lines and personal computers. This technology not only provides lower cost, long-distance sign language communication, but also supplies a more natural and more rapid interaction between humans and computer applications. When coupled with emerging technologies in voice recognition and natural language processing, the same technology could support more natural translations between signing and both written and spoken language.

The Adaptive Device Locator System on the World Wide Web

Academic Software, Inc.
331 West Second Street
Lexington, KY 40507
asistaff@acsw.com
http://www.acsw.com

Principal Investigator: Warren E. Lacefield, PhD
606/233-2332; Fax: 606/231-0725

Project Number: RW97076009
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 6 months
NIDRR Officer: Ellen Blasiotti
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $49,807

Abstract: This project's goal is to save the Adaptive Device Locator System (ADLS), a unique and valuable national resource, by transforming the entire Locator System database content and program code into a World Wide Web site on the Internet. The planned state-of-the-art, multilevel format is universally accessible to teachers, health professionals, and consumers with disabilities. The site lists computer access products the company provides; vendor links allow ADLS visitors to jump directly to other commercial sites once appropriate assistive technology devices are located. On the Web, ADLS will be an export leader, focusing on international trade in this field. ADLS on the Web will feature monthly infomercials, new product announcements, and other information of interest to consumers.

Broadcast Radio for Individuals Who Are Deaf: Gaining Equity (BRIDGE)

Associated Enterprises, Inc. (AEI)
TeleSonic Division
31 Old Solomons Island Road
Annapolis, MD 21401
lenb@annap.infi.net
http://www.telesonic.com

Principal Investigator: Leonard A. Blackshear
410/841-6920; Fax: 410/841-6505

Project Number: RW97076005
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 6 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $50,000

Abstract: Talk radio reaches large audiences of people and is a significantly less expensive medium than television. Yet radio broadcasts are inaccessible to deaf and certain hard of hearing people. In project BRIDGE, TeleSonic's goal is to broadcast information via the radio simultaneously in multiple transmission forms to deliver both audio and visual information: Users of TTYs, for example, receive "closed captioned" broadcasts of radio programs. The Phase I hypothesis is: it is feasible to transmit multimedia signals over commercial radio to be received by special decoder devices. Phase I includes: (1) defining technical trial test approaches, (2) developing test transmitter/receiver devices, (3) producing a brief radio talk show, (4) organizing focus group feedback sessions, (5) conducting trials, (6) developing preliminary product design specifications, and (7) documenting results. Anticipated long-term results include development of a commercially marketable radio transmission and receiving device.

Advanced Prediction Methods for Augmentative Communication

Enkidu Research, Inc.
P.O. Box 439
Lockport, NY 14095
enkido@pobox.com

Principal Investigator: Gregory W. Lesher, MD
716/433-0608; Fax: 716/433-0608

Project Number: RW97076002
Start Date: October 1, 1997 **Length:** 6 months
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 97 $49,930

Abstract: This project applies statistical language models to augmentative and alternative communications (AAC) word prediction. In this approach, an extensive source corpus is analyzed to extract meaningful statistics concerning the probability of all possible sequences of words. By then considering the past sequence of words entered by the user, the database can be cross-indexed to provide context-dependent predictions of subsequent words. This paradigm can be extended to arbitrary language components, such as syntactic and semantic classes, to exploit additional contextual information. The "combinatorial" nature of a statistical approach implies that there will often be missing or unreliable entries in the predictive database. These inconsitencies are avoided using a variety of established and innovative techniques. Performance measures for a large collection of predictive algorithm variants will be compiled and then contrasted with traditional AAC prediction methods.

SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATIVE RESEARCH—PHASE 2

New ideas and products useful to people with disabilities and the rehabilitation field are encouraged with small business innovative research grants. This three-phase program takes an idea from development to market readiness.

Miniature, Voice Output Independent Reading Device (IRA)

Ascent Technology Inc.
2301 Panorama Avenue
Boulder, CO 80304
jimsears@usa.net

Principal Investigator: James T. Sears, President
Contact Phone: 303/541-9112; Fax: 303/541-9117

Project Number: RW96014002
Start Date: August 1, 1996 **Length:** 24 months
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $139,111; FY 97 $139,109

Abstract: This project is developing and testing an innovative reading device that interprets and speaks aloud the printing found in books, labels, and other everyday items. This device enhances the abilities of people with visual impairments in schooling, employment, and independent living. The unique optical character recognition and voice synthesis device requires only one hand for operation and can read food and pharmacological packaging, including curved surfaces. The simplicity of the device allows the user to acquire functional reading capability after only a few minutes of training. In addition to serving people with visual impairments, this technology is applicable to the needs of people with cognitive impairments, such as people who have had a stroke, and to the needs of people who cannot read and non-native language readers. The prototype is being tested using 15 people with visual impairments aged 55 and older and four adults under the age of 45 to determine its applicability to the tasks of independent living.

Intelligent GRaphic Access Manager (IGRAM)

Ronald A. Morford
7700 Leesburg Pike, Suite 420
Falls Church, VA 22043
autofunc@tmn.com

Principal Investigator: Ronald A. Morford
Contact Phone: 703/883-9797; Fax: 703/883-9798

Project Number: RW96014004
Start Date: August 1, 1996 **Length:** 24 months
NIDRR Officer: James Doherty
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $124,950; FY 97 $124,950
Abstract: The Intelligent GRaphic Access Manager (IGRAM) is research to enable people with visual impairments to interact with *Windows 95* without any sighted assistance. The research investigates different approaches for providing better access to *Windows 95* in order to design software tools that can be applied on many application programs. This set of tools provides better access to graphics-based systems by people with visual impairments. If IGRAM is successful, it can enable thousands of people with visual impairments to interact independently with *Windows 95*, therefore, opening both educational and business opportunities.

STATE TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE

This program, funded under The Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988, as amended, supports consumer-driven, statewide, technology-related assistance for individuals of all ages and disabilities.

States and territories are eligible to apply for one grant per entity. Each grant consists of three distinct phases and can span a total of ten years of federal funding. The first phase is a development grant and lasts for three years. The second phase is known as the first extension and can last for two more years. The third and final phase is known as the second extension and lasts for five additional years.

In this section of the Directory there are two unique fields of information. The "date originally funded" field refers to the date that the grant was first awarded to the state or territory and identifies the beginning of the overall ten-year funding period. The "phase" field identifies which interval, and which year within that interval, the project is funded for in FY 97.

The purpose of these grants is to establish a program of statewide, comprehensive, technology-related assistance for individuals with disabilities of all ages.

Statewide Technology Access and Response (STAR) System for Alabamians with Disabilities

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (Lead agency)
2125 East South Boulevard
P.O. Box 20752
Montgomery, AL 36120-0752
alstar@mont.mindspring.com
http://www.mindspring.com/~alstar

Principal Investigator: Tom Gannaway, PhD
800/782-7656 (V, in state only); 334/613-3480 (V); 334/613-3519 (TTY); Fax: 334/613-3485

Project Number: H224A30009
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $520,670; FY 94 $540,000; FY 95 $580,000; FY 96 $536,900; FY 97 $574,900
Abstract: This project addresses nine goals: (1) to establish an organizational structure that maximizes consumer participation; (2) to facilitate interagency collaboration in the development of policies and procedures concerning technology services; (3) to maximize consumer participation at all levels of project activities; (4) to establish a statewide consumer and family network; (5) to develop a statewide consumer-responsive information and referral service system; (6) to develop a public awareness campaign to elevate the understanding of the benefits and use of technology for people with disabilities; (7) to develop and provide technology training activities for consumers, their families, professionals, employers, and the general public regarding technology-related issues; (8) to advance positive policy and funding changes that improve the procurement of and access to technology devices and services; and (9) to develop and implement a project evaluation system and conduct ongoing needs assessment.

Alaska

Alaska Assistive Technology Project

Alaska Department of Education (Lead agency)
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
1016 West Sixth, Suite 105
Anchorage, AK 99501
http://www.corecom.net/ATA/home.html

Principal Investigator: Mike Shiffer
907/563-5606 (V/TTY)
Contact: Rose Foster, Information and Referral
800/770-0138 (V/TTY, in state only); 907/274-5616 (V/TTY); Fax: 907/274-5606

Project Number: H224A00002
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $563,052; FY 91 $565,205; FY 92 $595,000; FY 93 $748,000; FY 94 $749,298; FY 95 $749,298; FY 96 $693,618; FY 97 $731,618
Abstract: The Alaska Assistive Technology Project serves people with disabilities in a unique geographic environment. The project has conducted a statewide needs assessment and a statewide resource assessment, developed provider capacity, established a public awareness campaign, and developed funding resources. Currently, the project is expanding service to Alaskans with disabilities living in remote Alaska through partnerships with federal, state, and local organizations. The project has also expanded its information and referral services through partnership with the state's Health and Social Services Department. Finally, the project has been instrumental in the development of the statewide Leadership Group on Disabilities. Through its Protection and Advocacy Partner, the project has assisted many businesses in compliance with the ADA through applications of technology.

American Samoa Assistive Technology Service (ASATS) Project

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (Lead agency)
Department of Human and Social Services
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Principal Investigator: Pete P. Galea'i
Contact: Edmund Pereira, Program Coordinator
011/684/699-1371 (V); 011/684/699-1372 (V); 011/684/699-1373 (TTY); Fax: 011/684/699-1376

Project Number: H224A30014
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $139,200; FY 94 $150,000; FY 95 $150,000; FY 96 $150,000; FY 97 $150,000
Abstract: This project addresses four goals: (1) identification, training, and support of people with disabilities to provide direction and guidance to the American Samoa Assistive Technology Project; (2) development and implementation of a system for individual and program needs assessment for assistive technology; (3) development and promotion, in collaboration and in partnership with existing agencies, of a consumer responsive, culturally appropriate assistive technology service-delivery system; and (4) development and implementation of a model multi-agency information, education, and public awareness system.

Arizona

Arizona Technology Access Program (AzTAP)

Institute for Human Development (Lead agency)
Northern Arizona University
Box 5630
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5630
daniel.davidson@nau.edu
http://www.nau.edu/~ihd/aztap.html

Principal Investigator: Richard W. Carroll, PhD; Dan P. Davidson, PhD
Contact: Dan P. Davidson, PhD
800/477-9921 (V, in state only); 520/523-8141 (V); 520/523-1695 (TTY); Fax: 520/523-9127

Project Number: H224A40002
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1994 **Phase:** 1st year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $507,916; FY 95 $550,000; FY 96 $509,130; FY 97 $547,130
Abstract: The mission of this program is to increase access to assistive technology (AT) services and devices for people with disabilities and their families, and to facilitate the development of a coordinated, consumer-responsive AT service- delivery system. The program includes seven goals: (1) to establish a program infrastructure that is consumer responsive and promotes system change; (2) to increase consumer involvement; (3) to increase interagency collaboration and coordination; (4) to increase awareness of the needs for, and efficacy of, AT services and devices; (5) to increase the competencies and skills of providers and consumers of AT services and devices; (6) to improve program and fiscal resources; and (7) to develop and implement protection and advocacy services in support of the program. Priority activities include: information and referral, training and technical assistance, outreach to under-represented populations, funding and policy analysis, advocacy, and research.

Arkansas Increasing Capabilities Access Network (ICAN)

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (Lead agency)
Department of Workforce Education
2201 Brookwood Drive, Suite 117
Little Rock, AR 72202
http://www.arkansas-ican.org

Principal Investigator: Sue Gaskin
800/828-2799 (V/TTY, in state only); 501/666-8868 (V/TTY); Fax: 501/666-5319

Project Number: H224A90020
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $503,811; FY 90 $506,078; FY 91 $551,078; FY 92 $725,000; FY 93 $773,929; FY 94 $835,000; FY 95 $835,000; FY 96 $772,951; FY 97 $579,713
Abstract: This project's activities and objectives include establishing a clearinghouse for technology, expanding funding alternatives for technology, creating a consumer-responsive technology system through legal remedies, expanding outreach programs, increasing system capacity through education across professional and technical disciplines, and providing information and referral services.

California

California Assistive Technology System (CATS)

California Department of Rehabilitation (Lead agency)
Independent Living Division
830 K Street
P.O. Box 944222
Sacramento, CA 94244-2220
doroa.dlaw@hw1.cahwnet.gov
http://www.catsca.com

Principal Investigator: Catherine Campisi, PhD, Project Director
Contact: Dennis Law, Project Coordinator
800/390-2699 (V/TTY, in state only); 916/324-1003 (V); 916/324-3062 (V/TTY);
Fax: 916/323-0914

Project Number: H224A30008
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $550,000; FY 94 $680,000; FY 95 $900,000; FY 96 $833,000; FY 97 $871,121
Abstract: This project carries out its mission through the work of two groups--a State Interagency Committee on Technology-Related Assistance (SICTRA) and the CATS Steering Council (a majority of whose members are consumers). SICTRA oversees programs aimed at reducing interagency impediments to service delivery. The CATS Steering Council oversees the development of programs for information and referral, the development of curricula, presentation of workshops for consumers and community organizations, and examination of mechanisms and methodology to increase both technology funding and the means to reach unserved and underserved populations.

Colorado Assistive Technology Project: Developing Colorado's Consumer Responsive System

Rocky Mountain Resource and Training Institute (Lead agency)
The Pavilion, Box 140
1919 Ogden Street, Second Floor
Denver, CO 80218

Principal Investigator: Cathy Bodine, Project Director
800/255-3477 (in state only); 303/864-5100 (V); 303/864-5110 (TTY); Fax: 303/864-5119

Project Number: H224A40014
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $540,140; FY 90 $542,571; FY 91 $577,571; FY 92 $609,538; FY 93 $690,407; FY 94 $780,000; FY 95 $780,000; FY 96 $722,000; FY 97 $541,529
Abstract: This project's activities and objectives include a network of Technology Outreach Centers throughout the state and a central assistive technology resource center. Project activities include information, referral, public awareness, training, technical assistance, and electronic networking linkages between local agencies and the state. Systems-change activities include a policy review and analysis task force, ongoing advocacy education, and direct advocacy services through a contract with the state protection and advocacy system.

Connecticut Tech Act Project

Connecticut Department of Social Services (Lead agency)
Bureau of Rehabilitation Services
10 Griffin Road North
Windsor, CT 06095
cttap@aol.com
http://www.ucc.uconn.edu/~techact

Principal Investigator: John Ficarro
800/537-2549 (in state only); 860/298-2010 (V); 860/298-2018 (TTY); Fax: 860/298-9590

Project Number: H224A20013
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $525,000; FY 93 $554,000; FY 94 $580,000; FY 95 $520,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $538,000
Abstract: This program includes a single point of entry, advocacy, information and referral, peer counseling, and access to objective expert advice and consultation for people with disabilities. This system is founded on the principles of ready access to available technology, informed choice, coordination, and maximum use of available resources and knowledge. The project created a low-interest assistive technology revolving loan fund to serve as an alternative funding mechanism for individuals ineligible for existing funding streams. Finally, the program is supported by an extensive training, education, and public awareness component. It is working to attain permanent funding for peer technology counselors. In response to the Tech Act Amendments of 1994, the project has entered into a contract with the Office of Protection and Advocacy and is refocusing on systems change and advocacy issues.

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative (DATI)

Applied Science and Engineering Laboratories
University of Delaware (Lead agency)
A.I. duPont Institute
Hospital for Children
1600 Rockland Road, Room 154
P.O. Box 269
Wilmington, DE 19899-0269
dati@asel.udel.edu
http://www.asel.udel.edu/dati

Principal Investigator: Beth A. Mineo Mollica, PhD
Contact: Sonja Simowitz, Project Coordinator
800/870-DATI (V/TTY, in state only); 302/651-6790 (V); 302/651-6794 (TTY); Fax: 302/651-6793

Project Number: H224A10005
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1991 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 91 $501,562; FY 92 $505,146; FY 93 $550,616; FY 94 $620,000; FY 95 $620,000; FY 96 $573,934; FY 97 $611,928
Abstract: The DATI project has established county resource centers in each of Delaware's three counties. These centers serve as information and equipment resource sites, offering short-term equipment loans, training and demonstration workshops, and regular informational mailings. DATI also offers a statewide annual conference that features a series of presentations and a large exhibit hall for manufacturers and service providers to display their devices and services. A bi-monthly newsletter featuring articles on funding, equipment recycling, and general assistive technology information is mailed statewide. Collaboration among existing state agencies and consumer groups has enhanced further assistive technology promotion throughout the state.

District of Columbia

Assistive Technology Funding and Systems Change

United Cerebral Palsy Associations, Inc. (Lead agency)
1660 L Street Northwest, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
http://www.ucpa.org/html/innovative/atfsc/index.html

Principal Investigator: Michael Morris
Contact: Karen Flippo, Project Director
800/USA-5UCP (V/TTY); 202/776-0406 (V/TTY); Fax: 202/776-0414

Project Number: HN94040001
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1994
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $713,627; FY 95 $739,835; FY 96 $744,810; FY 97 $750,000
Abstract: This contract provides nationwide training, technical assistance, material development, and dissemination of materials and products related to assistive technology funding and systems change. An Assistive Technology Leadership Total Quality Management (TQM) Group, representing all four regions of the country, functions as external ombudsman for the project, to ensure that project activities are relevant, consumer responsive, user friendly, accurate, timely and dependable, and are focused on assistive technology funding issues and systems change. NIDRR awarded this contract to United Cerebral Palsy Associations, Inc.; the subcontracting organization is Neighborhood Legal Services. This project maintains the atfscp@ucpa.org discussion list.

District of Columbia Partnership for Assistive Technology (DCPAT)

Rehabilitation Services Administration (Lead agency)
800 Ninth Street Southwest, Fourth Floor
Washington, DC 20024

Principal Investigator: Elizabeth Parker, Acting Project Director
202/645-5711

Project Number: H224A30001
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $500,000; FY 94 $550,180; FY 95 $565,000; FY 96 $523,015; FY 97 $557,503
Abstract: This project improves access to and availability of funding for assistive technology devices and services by educating consumers and providers about all potential sources of assistive technology funding, streamlining current policies and practices, and developing new sources of funding. The project increases awareness and knowledge of appropriate assistive technology devices and services by conducting activities to facilitate efficient information and referral in the community, increasing public awareness of the efficacy of assistive technology, and increasing availability of written materials in alternative formats and at reading levels appropriate for people with low literacy skills and for those who are not native English speakers. The project also improves coordination of assistive technology-related activities among agencies and organizations within the District of Columbia and neighboring states, and nationally by developing mechanisms to improve coordination among disability-related District of Columbia agencies. The project improves the capacity to provide appropriate assistive technology in the District of Columbia by conducting intensive training, providing technical assistance, and developing and implementing new model programs.

Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST), Inc.

FAAST, Inc. (Lead agency)
1020 East Lafayette Street, Suite 110
Tallahassee, FL 32301-4546
faast@faast.org
http://www.faast.org

Principal Investigator: Terry Ward, PhD, Executive Director
800/322-7881 (V/TTY - in state, information and referral only); 850/487-3278 (V/TTY); Fax: 850/487-2805

Project Number: H224A20014
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $550,000; FY 93 $995,000 (includes carryover funding); FY 94 $730,000; FY 95 $700,000; FY 96 $647,983; FY 97 $685,983
Abstract: The focus of this project is increasing consumer awareness regarding the availability of assistive technology devices and services, and fostering advocacy and systems change. Through the state's Regional Centers, Satellites, and a statewide 800 number, consumers can obtain information about assistive technology. Through local consumer advocacy groups and a contract with the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, individuals are assured of their rights to assistive technology under state and federal laws. During the first phase, the program focused on awareness and creating consumer networks. In this phase, the focus is shifting to six priority areas: (1) the development, implementation, and monitoring of policies, practices, procedures, and organizational structures to improve access to, provision of, funding for, and timely acquisition of assistive technology devices and services; (2) the removal of barriers to obtaining these services; (3) the coordination of activities among state agencies; (4) the development and implementation of strategies to empower people with disabilities and their families to advocate successfully for assistive technology; (5) the provision of outreach to underrepresented and rural populations; and (6) the development of strategies to ensure timely acquisition of assistive technology.

Tools for Life - Georgia Assistive Technology Program

Georgia Department of Human Resources (Lead agency)
Division of Rehabilitation Services
2 Peachtree Street Northwest, Suite 35-413
Atlanta, GA 30303-3166
102476.1737@compuserve.com
http://www.gatfl.org

Principal Investigator: Joy Kniskern
800/497-8665 (V, in state only); 404/657-3082 (V); 404/657-3084 (V); 404/657-3085 (TTY); Fax: 404/657-3086

Project Number: H224A10001
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1991 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 91 $519,474; FY 92 $520,000; FY 93 $585,000; FY 94 $729,924; FY 95 $729,924; FY 96 $675,683; FY 97 $713,683
Abstract: The Georgia Tools for Life program includes training at all levels, public awareness, funding policy analysis, direct services, device demonstration, and program evaluation. The hub of Tools for Life is operated out of the Georgia Division of Rehabilitation Services. Tools for Life is responsible for seven areas of coordination: (1) policy analysis and improved service delivery, (2) coordination with consumers, (3) coordination among public and private organizations, (4) training and technical assistance, (5) public awareness and an information and referral network, (6) advocacy, and (7) consumer-responsive program evaluation. Tools for Life also coordinates seven Technology Resource Centers, the Loan/ Recovery of Equipment Program, and is establishing a fund for adaptive equipment loans. It also provides technical assistance to Touch the Future, a private, nonprofit organization formed to carry on the Tech Act initiatives in Georgia.

Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT)

University of Guam (Lead agency)
University Affiliated Program on Developmental Disabilities
UOG Station
House 12, Dean's Circle
Mangilao, GU 96923
gsat@ite.net
http://uog2.uog.edu/uap/gsat.html

Principal Investigator: Heidi E. Farra-San Nicolas, PhD
671/735-2481 (V)
Contact: Ben Servino, Project Director
671/735-2493 (V); 671/734-8378 (TTY); Fax: 671/734-5709

Project Number: H224A40003
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1994 **Phase:** 1st year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $150,000; FY 95 $150,000; FY 96 $150,000; FY 97 $150,000
Abstract: This project has established a consumer-responsive, comprehensive, territory-wide program of technology-related assistance for people with disabilities to assist in overcoming Guam's unique challenges, including limited local funding, lack of trained personnel, few markets and market incentives, limited information, and limited eligibility for specific federal funding. Additionally, the provision of assistive technology devices and services in the Pacific Basin presents many unique challenges. Small island systems, such as Guam, have limited budgets, and a harsh tropical-island environment (salt water, high humidity, and rough terrain) that creates difficulties for equipment repair and maintenance. The remote geographic location makes procurement, adjustments, and custom modifications to assistive technology equipment extremely difficult and costly. The project emphasizes and supports systems change and advocacy activities that serve to build capacity within existing programs and with people with disabilities of all ages. GSAT is locally administered by the University Affiliated Program on Developmental Disabilities under the College of Education at the University of Guam.

Hawaii Assistive Technology Training and Services (HATTS) Program

Hawaii Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (Lead agency)
414 Kuili Street, Suite 104
Honolulu, HI 96817
bfl@pixi.com

Principal Investigator: Neil Shim
808/586-5366
Contact: Barbara Fischlowitz-Leong
800/645-3007 (V/TTY, in state only); 808/532-7110 (V/TTY); Fax: 808/532-7120

Project Number: H224A10023
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1991 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 91 $530,926; FY 92 $530,926; FY 93 $530,926; FY 94 $660,895; FY 95 $678,000; FY 96 $627,618; FY 97 $665,618
Abstract: The Hawaii Assistive Technology Training and Services (HATTS) Program provides information and training on devices, services, and funding resources. Activities include partnerships with a variety of groups including consumers, educators, state agencies, and private organizations. HATTS also increases AT awareness and promotes self-advocacy among people with disabilities. The project subcontracts with the Protection and Advocacy Agency of Hawaii to provide legal representation. An advisory council to the project provides input from the perspective of consumers and service providers, and the project collaborates with state agency officials through its Policy Coordinating Committee.

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Idaho

Idaho Assistive Technology Project

Idaho Center on Developmental Disabilities (Lead agency)
University of Idaho
Professional Building
129 West Third Street
Moscow, ID 83844-4401
seil861@uidaho.edu
http://www.ets.uidaho.edu/icdd

Principal Investigator: Ron Seiler
800/432-8324 (V/TTY); 208/885-3559 (V/TTY); Fax: 208/885-3628

Project Number: H224A20017
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $529,436; FY 93 $676,680 (includes carryover funding); FY 94 $620,000; FY 95 $634,246; FY 96 $587,115; FY 97 $625,115
Abstract: The Idaho Assistive Technology Project is managed by the Idaho Center on Developmental Disabilities at the University of Idaho. The project engages in systems change activities, training, materials development, information dissemination, and advocacy activities directed at increasing the availability of assistive devices and services to Idahoans who have disabilities. A customer board directs the overall activities of the project and engages in a process of barrier identification. Major project components include training for consumers and service providers about assistive technology, funding and loan programs for AT, advocacy, direct service provision through five regional resource centers, and systems change that addresses policy, practice, and legislation.

State Technology Assistance

Illinois Assistive Technology Project

IATP (Lead agency)
528 South Fifth Street, Suite 100
Springfield, IL 62701
iatp@midwest.net

Principal Investigator: Wilhelmina Gunther
Contact: Cathy Cates
800/852-5110 (V/TTY, in state only); 217/522-7985 (V/TTY); 217/522-9966 (TTY); Fax: 217/522-8067

Project Number: H224A90038
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $515,300; FY 90 $517,619; FY 91 $617,619; FY 92 $620,000; FY 93 $750,000; FY 94 $923,271; FY 95 $923,271; FY 96 $833,121; FY 97 $640,997
Abstract: This project's activities and objectives include information and referral services of available technology and services, comprehensive advocacy training for people with disabilities and their families, and opportunities to explore assistive technology options in the demonstration center. The project has statewide consumer involvement. Consumers have input into all facets of the agencies' operation from establishing goals and objectives to implementing the activities.

Indiana

Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities

ATTAIN (Lead agency)
1815 North Meridian Street, Suite 200
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Principal Investigator: Christine Fulford
800/528-8246 (V, in state only); 800/743-3333 (TTY, in state only); 317/921-8766 (V); Fax: 317/921-8774

Project Number: H224A00027
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $521,480; FY 91 $541,277; FY 92 $565,277; FY 93 $660,288; FY 94 $726,892; FY 95 $726,892; FY 96 $672,877; FY 97 $710,877
Abstract: Accessing Technology Through Awareness in Indiana (ATTAIN) has primary responsibility for the Indiana Technology-Related Assistance Program. The project promotes: community-based, technology-related services and systems change through outreach and training; advocacy on funding issues; policy review; and position statements.

Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities

Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (Lead agency)
University Hospital School
100 Hawkins Drive
Iowa City, IA 52242-1011
http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech

Principal Investigator: Jane Gay, BSN, RN; Mary Quigley, JD
319/356-4402 (V)
Contact: Ann Dudler; Amy Hanna; Jennifer Britton
800/331-3027 (V/TTY); Fax: 319/356-8284

Project Number: H224A00028
Date Originally Funded: April 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $557,322; FY 91 $594,287; FY 92 $595,289; FY 93 $700,314; FY 94 $735,000; FY 95 $735,000; FY 96 $680,382; FY 97 $718,382
Abstract: This project conducts awareness and training programs and collaborates with other systems-change efforts. The information and referral portion of the Iowa program, InfoTech, provides information on new and used adaptive equipment, funding information, and a bi-monthly newsletter. An interstate agreement with Minnesota to provide information and referral has also been implemented. The goals and objectives of the Iowa Program are developed and implemented through an extensive process that involves consumers, advocacy organizations, private and public service providers, regional and state agencies, third-party payors, and entities not traditionally associated with assistive technology services.

Kansas

Assistive Technology for Kansans

University of Kansas (Lead agency)
Life Span Institute
Assistive Technology Center
2601 Gabriel
P.O. Box 738
Parsons, KS 67357
chuck@parsons.lsi.ukans.edu
http://www.atk.lsi.ukans.edu

Principal Investigator: Charles R. Spellman, EdD; Sara H. Sack, PhD
800/526-3648 (800/KAN DO IT) (in state only); 316/421-8367 (V/TTY); Fax: 316/421-0954

Project Number: H224A30013
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $515,000; FY 94 $529,999; FY 95 $550,000; FY 96 $513,758; FY 97 $551,758
Other Funding: FY 93 $89,029 (Kansas Rehabilitation Services); FY 95 $395,000 (KRS); FY 96 $780,000 (KRS)

Abstract: Through consumer involvement and leadership by the Kansas University Program at Parsons, this project engages in activities that are designed to result in laws, regulations, policies, practices, or organizational structures that promote consumer-responsive programs that increase access to assistive technology devices and services. Through subcontracts with organizations across the state, the project operates five Regional Assistive Technology Access Sites, provides a toll-free number that connects callers directly to the appropriate Regional Access Site, manages an Interagency Equipment Loan System, coordinates the statewide assistive technology distance learning program, conducts a three-day Assistive Technology Conference, and leads a policy analysis and legislative alert effort.

The Kentucky Assistive Technology Service (KATS) Network

Kentucky Department for the Blind (Lead agency)
KATS Network Coordinating Center
8412 Westport Road
Louisville, KY 40242
katsnet@iglou.com
http://www.katsnet.org

Principal Investigator: J. Chase Forrester
Contact: Jim Syme
800/327-5287 (V); 502/327-0022 (V/TTY); Fax: 502/327-9947

Project Number: H224A90002
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $535,102; FY 90 $537,510; FY 91 $577,102; FY 92 $680,000; FY 93 $710,108; FY 94 $800,000; FY 95 $800,000; FY 96 $740,552; FY 97 $555,414
Abstract: This project is a statewide network of organizations and individuals connecting to enhance and incorporate assistive technology into services that improve the quality and productivity of life. The end goal of this consumer- driven, collaborative system is to make assistive technology information, devices, and services easily obtainable for people of any age and/or disability. In addition to its primary role in the development and coordination of activities among state agencies and organizations that facilitate access to, provision of, and funding for assistive technology devices and services, the Coordinating Center staff conducts information and referral services using a statewide service provider database, disseminates information, coordinates training activities, publishes a newsletter, operates an equipment recycling and lending program, and is implementing a low interest loan program. Consumers represent a majority of the advisory board membership.

Louisiana

Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network (LATAN)

Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network (LATAN) (Lead agency)
P.O. Box 14115
3042 Old Forge Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-4115
jmnesbit@aol.com; latanstate@aol.com

Principal Investigator: Julie M. Nesbit
Contact: Clara Pourciau
800/270-6185 (V/TTY); 504/925-9500 (V/TTY); Fax: 504/925-9560

Project Number: H224A10028
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1991 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 91 $502,566; FY 92 $505,398; FY 93 $555,398; FY 94 $631,095; FY 95 $660,000; FY 96 $610,955; FY 97 $648,955
Abstract: Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network (LATAN) is a consumer-directed, consumer-responsive advocacy and systems change project whose mission is to ensure that people with disabilities in the state who want assistive technology have what they need and are able to use it. Major program initiatives include: (1) consumer involvement/empowerment, (2) advocacy and systems change, (3) outreach, and (4) interagency coordination. In its continuing effort to reach rural and outlying areas of the state, LATAN maintains four regional programs, with coordinators in northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest regions of the state. Each region also has an all-consumer volunteer advisory council to represent the specific needs and issues of the region, and to advise and assist the regional coordinator(s). Regional AT coordinators and advisory councils continue to develop satellite sites in already existing organizations and groups to build the capacity of those groups to provide assistive technology and advocacy. These sites provide the opportunity for LATAN to reach rural and inner-city areas, where a majority of ethnic minorities and elderly people reside. An all-consumer Board of Directors directs the project.

Maine Consumer Information and Technology Training Exchange (Maine CITE)

Maine Department of Education (Lead agency)
Division of Special Services
46 University Drive
Augusta, ME 04330
kpowers@maine.caps.maine.edu

Principal Investigator: David Noble Stockford
207/287-5950 (V); 207/287-2550 (TTY)
Contact: Kathleen Powers, Project Director
207/621-3195 (V/TTY); Fax: 207/621-3193

Project Number: H224A90047
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $541,876; FY 90 $544,315; FY 91 $594,315; FY 92 $650,000; FY 93 $750,000; FY 94 $845,000; FY 95 $845,000; FY 96 $782,000; FY 97 $586,656
Abstract: This project collaborates with various Maine organizations, including centers for independent living, parent training agencies, and nonprofit community programs, to build a statewide network of information and resources on assistive technology. The University of Maine System's interactive television equipment is used to extend statewide education awareness and training. Maine also has a statewide $5 million adaptive equipment loan fund and an electronic data bank of state resources located at the Maine State Library.

Maryland

Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MTAP)

Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities (Lead agency)
Box 10, One Market Center
300 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
rtsmrc@jagunet.com
http://www.mdtap.org

Principal Investigator: Paul Rasinski
800/832-4827 (V/TTY); 410/333-4975 (V/TTY); Fax: 410/333-6674

Project Number: H224A90019
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $500,000; FY 90 $502,250; FY 91 $502,250; FY 92 $671,029; FY 93 $770,000; FY 94 $825,000; FY 95 $825,000; FY 96 $763,694; FY 97 $572,771
Abstract: Activities of this project include conducting a public awareness campaign with a toll-free phone number, maintaining lending libraries, and maintaining an equipment demonstration center. The project uses regional technology specialists and existing state and private resources, and performs a statewide evaluation of the effectiveness of technology.

Massachusetts

MATP Center

Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Lead agency)
210 South Street, Fifth Floor
Boston, MA 02111-2725
howe_m@a1.tch.harvard.edu
http://www.matp.org

Principal Investigator: Nan Robbins
617/695-7500 (V); 617/698-7600 (TTY)
Contact: Marylyn Howe (c/o MATP Center, Children's Hospital, 1295 Boylston Street, Suite 310, Boston, MA 02215)
800/848-8867 (V/TTY, information and referral, in state only); 617/355-7153 (V, information and referral); 617/355-7301 (TTY); 800/950-6287 (BBS, in state only); 617/267-5027 (BBS); Fax: 617/355-6345

Project Number: H224A00036
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $563,998; FY 91 $593,993; FY 92 $624,062; FY 93 $725,764; FY 94 $811,962; FY 95 $811,962; FY 96 $751,592; FY 97 $789,592
Abstract: The Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership (MATP) is a consumer-responsive, cross-disability, multicultural, statewide project that conducts activities to increase access to assistive technology for people with disabilities. Activities include public awareness, information services, training and technical assistance, funding and policy analysis, advocacy, and related work to improve services and promote involvement of people with disabilities in assistive technology. Through regional Peer Assistive Technology Programs, MATP provides information and referral, peer networking, training, individual and systems advocacy. The MATP works closely with people with disabilities, family members, providers, and state agencies to identify needs and pursue change in the assistive technology service-delivery system. The project publishes an assistive technology newsletter and provides an electronic bulletin board service, pursues remedies of funding and policy barriers, provides training on a range of assistive technology available and resources for obtaining assistive technology, pursues improvement of equipment standards, promotes increased availability of services, promotes increased involvement of people with disabilities in assistive technology services and policy making, and coordinates with related projects in Massachusetts, regionally, and nationally.

NIDRR Program Directory 1997

Michigan

TECH 2000: Michigan's Assistive Technology Project

Rehabilitation Services (Lead agency)
Michigan Disability Rights Coalition
241 East Saginaw Highway, Suite 450
East Lansing, MI 48823

Principal Investigator: Sheryl Avery-Meints
Contact: RoAnne Chaney
800/760-4600 (V/TTY, in state); 517/333-2477 (V/TTY); Fax: 517/333-2677

Project Number: H224A50009
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $550,000; FY 93 $885,881 (includes carryover funding); FY 94 $610,000; FY 95 $850,000; FY 96 $786,837; FY 97 $824,837
Abstract: Michigan's TECH 2000 focuses on establishing a statewide, community-based infrastructure dedicated to promoting access to assistive technology in Michigan. The infrastructure has five components: (1) a state coordinating body with at least 51 percent consumers; (2) a state project office in the Jobs Commission, Michigan Rehabilitation Services; (3) local coordinating bodies called "TECH 2000 Community Councils" that cover 83 Michigan counties; (4) special project grants to support innovative systems change initiatives; and (5) a statewide electronic Bulletin Board System and information clearinghouse — MATCH.

A System of Technology to Achieve Results (STAR)

State of Minnesota (Lead agency)
Governor's Advisory Council on Technology for People with Disabilities
300 Centennial Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
http://www.state.mn.us/ebranch/admin/assistivetechnology.html

Principal Investigator: Rachel Wobschall
800/657-3862 (V, in state only); 800/657-3895 (TTY, in state only); 612/296-2771 (V); 612/296-8478 (TTY); Fax: 612/282-6671

Project Number: H224A90041
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $500,000; FY 90 $502,250; FY 91 $567,250; FY 92 $700,000; FY 93 $750,000; FY 94 $820,000; FY 95 $820,000; FY 96 $759,066; FY 97 $694,268
Abstract: This project: (1) provides a toll-free information service for residents of Minnesota and Iowa; (2) distributes brochures and other literature; (3) hosts workshops and forums; (4) provides opportunities for consumer involvement; and (5) assists individuals seeking funding. STAR advocates for policy, practice, and legislative change regarding access to assistive technology; contracts for mobile outreach projects and legal advocacy services; and provides grants on a regional basis.

Mississippi

Project START - Success Through Assistive/Rehabilitative Technology

Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (Lead agency)
P.O. Box 1698
Jackson, MS 39215
spower@netdoor.com

Principal Investigator: Steve Power
800/852-8328 (V/TTY, in state only); 601/987-4872 (V/TTY); Fax: 601/364-2349

Project Number: H224A00032
Date Originally Funded: May 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $521,285; FY 91 $530,000; FY 92 $554,000; FY 93 $594,714; FY 94 $619,430; FY 95 $619,430 FY 96 $573,400; FY 97 $573,400

Abstract: Project START is a multifaceted, collaborative effort. The primary components include: (1) an advisory council to allow for consumer input and the involvement of other relevant agencies, organizations, and groups; (2) an information clearinghouse that provides people with disabilities, their families, service providers, and other interested parties with information regarding available assistive technology devices and services; (3) a training program that ensures that service provider personnel, people with disabilities, and other relevant parties are familiar with the utility and potential of assistive technology devices; (4) a model service-delivery system that acts as a referral source and concurrent technical resource to existing assistive technology providers, and provides assistive technology services to people with disabilities ineligible for existing programs; and (5) an equipment loan program that makes assistive devices available to people with disabilities for trial periods, for use while their personal equipment is being repaired or replaced, and to service providers for training and demonstration purposes.

Missouri Assistive Technology Project

Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (Lead agency)
Governor's Council on Disability
4731 South Cochise, Suite 114
Independence, MO 64055-6975
matpmo@qni.com
http://www.dolir.state.mo.us/matp

Principal Investigator: Diane Golden, PhD
800/647-8557 (V, in state only); 800/647-8558 (TTY, in state only); 816/373-5193 (V); 816/373-9315 (TTY); Fax: 816/373-9314

Project Number: H224A30015
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1991 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 91 $524,488; FY 92 $526,988; FY 93 $550,801; FY 94 $667,121; FY 95 $675,000; FY 96 $689,639; FY 97 $727,639
Abstract: The primary components of this project include an Advisory Council established to provide input from consumers and relevant state agencies; an information and referral service; a training program familiarizing consumers and service providers with devices, services, and issues such as policy change, advocacy, and individual advocacy; six assistive technology demonstration centers to provide outreach throughout the state; individual advocacy services; and legislative and policy initiatives including an assistive technology lemon law, an equipment distribution program through the state relay service, and Medicaid-managed care reform.

MonTECH

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (Lead agency)
Disability Services Division
111 Sanders
P.O. Box 4210
Helena, MT 59604
montech@selway.umt.edu
http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu

Principal Investigator: Bill Lamb
406/444-2590 (V)
Contact: Gail McGregor
800/732-0323 (V/TTY, in state only); 406/243-5676 (V/TTY); 800/961-9610 (BBS, in state only); 406/243-2318 (BBS); Fax: 406/243-4730

Project Number: H224A10002
Date Originally Funded: September 30, 1991 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 91 $550,553; FY 92 $550,553; FY 93 $590,553; FY 94 $675,258; FY 95 $673,058; FY 96 $624,080; FY 97 $663,080

Abstract: Project goals are systems change and capacity building, full consumer access, and statewide community participation. Emphasis is on enacting statewide systems and policy change, improving awareness, strengthening consumer and provider networks, and increasing access to funding. A network of local advocates provides individual information and one-to-one assistance to obtain funding. The Montana Consortium for Assistive Technology (MCAT) serves as the program advisory board and offers opportunities for consumer participation. Projects currently under way include: (1) focused outreach activities with the state's largest minority group, Native Americans; (2) various training programs; (3) an assistive technology loan/lease clearinghouse; (4) an electronic bulletin board system and Internet Web site; and (5) an information and assistance service that includes maintenance of a comprehensive database of Montana service programs. Other projects under way include a comprehensive equipment demonstration and evaluation center offering hands-on experience with devices to both consumers and service providers and a low-interest financial loan program for consumers who do not qualify for other funding sources.

Nebraska Assistive Technology Project

Nebraska Department of Education (Lead agency)
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
atp@nde4.nde.state.ne.us
http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ATP/TECHome.html

Principal Investigator: Mark Schultz
402/471-0734 (V/TTY)
Contact: Nancy Noha
800/742-7594 (V/TTY, in state only); 402/471-0734 (V/TTY); 402/471-3647 (V/TTY); Fax: 402/471-0117

Project Number: H224A90040
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $523,000; FY 90 $525,352; FY 91 $570,352; FY 92 $730,000; FY 93 $766,984; FY 94 $820,000; FY 95 $820,000; FY 96 $759,066; FY 97 $569,300
Abstract: This project has established an information and referral network, demonstration centers, a peer network, and special studies on payment practices. It has also developed training materials for health care and insurance professionals and computer databases for used equipment listings. A three-hour instructional unit on *Assistive Technology in the Classroom* is available for purchase and a special education technical manual has been written.

State Technology Assistance

Nevada

Assistive Technology Services, Advocacy, and Systems Change

Nevada Rehabilitation Division (Lead agency)
Community-Based Services
711 South Stewart Street
Carson City, NV 89710

Principal Investigator: Donny Loux
Contact: Paul Haugen
888/337-3839 (V, in state only); 702/687-4452 (V); 702/687-3388 (TTY); Fax: 702/687-3292

Project Number: H224A00037
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $560,884; FY 91 $580,047; FY 92 $594,368; FY 93 $624,588; FY 94 $675,046; FY 95 $675,046; FY 96 $624,883; FY 97 $662,883
Abstract: The Nevada Project is accomplishing 15 major goals in systems change that have been established in response to identified needs in consultation with the state's consumer-directed executive board. Additionally, the project trains 400 consumers in the use of technology; a minimum of 1,800 consumers in self-advocacy skills; 550 families in applying technology to the needs of a family member with a disability; and a minimum of 5,730 cross-disciplinary university undergraduates in the fields of medicine, health, education, rehabilitation, gerontology, engineering, speech pathology and audiology, and counseling in assistive technology and cultural awareness. The project provides information and referral and other awareness services to a minimum of 10,000 consumers over the life of the project and evaluates the impact of those services through follow-up and satisfaction surveys.

Supporting People with Disabilities Through New Hampshire's Technology Partnership

University of New Hampshire Technology Partnership (Lead agency)
Institute on Disability
10 Ferry Street, Suite 307, Unit 14
Concord, NH 03301-5019
mjpawlek@christa.unh.edu
http://www.iod.unh.edu/projects/spd.htm

Principal Investigator: Jan Nisbet, PhD
603/862-4320 (V/TTY)
Contact: Marion Pawlek
800/427-3338 (V/TTY, in state only); 603/224-0630 (V/TTY); Fax: 603/226-0389

Project Number: H224A10015
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1991 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 91 $506,307; FY 92 $505,008; FY 93 $550,008; FY 94 $635,000; FY 95 $635,000; FY 96 $587,813; FY 97 $625,813

Abstract: This project provides extensive training and network development focused on: (1) early intervention, (2) inclusive education, (3) supported living and employment, and (4) using alternative and augmentative communication to develop free expression and citizenship. Recycled equipment, demonstration and training, and information and referral are also available. The project's lead agency is the Institute on Disability, a University Affiliated Program at the University of New Hampshire. Additional subcontracts have been awarded to Granite State Independent Living, Disabilities Rights Center, and New Hampshire Alliance for Assistive Technology.

New Jersey

Technology Assistive Resource Program (TARP)

New Jersey Department of Labor (Lead agency)
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
210 South Broad Street, Third Floor
Trenton, NJ 08608

Principal Investigator: Tim Montagano, Project Director
609/292-7498 (V)
800/342-5832 (V, in state only); 800/382-7765, 800/DTARP-NJ (TTY, in state only);
609/633-7106 (TTY); Fax: 609/777-0187

Project Number: H224A20007
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1992 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $548,050; FY 93 $670,528 (includes carryover funding); FY 94 $548,050; FY 95 $550,000; FY 96 $509,130; FY 97 $547,130
Abstract: This project maintains a toll-free telephone number, an accessible database for assistive technology information, and a "recycle" service for new and used equipment, and ensures consumer empowerment by placing them in majority roles on the advisory councils for the state. Evaluation activities focus on three important areas: project monitoring during the implementation phase, consumer satisfaction, and the extent of the project's impact and systems change. The project conducts internal and external evaluations. The project has special outreach plans for rural, senior citizen, and Hispanic and African American populations. In order to improve access to assistive technology, TARP offers graduating levels of technical assistance, from information and referral to formal protection and advocacy services.

New Mexico

New Mexico Technology-Related Assistance Program (NMTAP)

New Mexico State Department of Education (Lead agency)
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
435 Saint Michaels Drive, Building D
Santa Fe, NM 87505
http://www.rt66.com/catn.org

Principal Investigator: Andy Winnegar, Deputy Director
Contact: Carol Cadena, Information Specialist
800/866-2253 (V/TTY, in state only); 800/659-4915 (TTY, in state only); 505/827-3532 (V); 505/827-3587 (TTY); Fax: 505/827-3746

Project Number: H224A00017
Date Originally Funded: April 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $500,500; FY 91 $515,500; FY 92 $525,000; FY 93 $660,710; FY 94 $750,000; FY 95 $750,000; FY 96 $694,000; FY 97 $732,268
Abstract: The NMTAP project has established a statewide program for coordinating assistive technology services. Staff members and the coordinating council conduct awareness and outreach with rural, underrepresented people and provide needs assessment and evaluation for an information and referral network, a statewide bank of loanable assistive equipment, model home access, transportation, personal mobility, communication systems change activities, an assistive technology funding computer system, and information and assistance for other major public, state, and federal components of the project.

New York State Technology-Related Assistance of Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID) Project

New York State Office of Advocate for Persons with Disabilities (Lead agency)
TRAID Project
One Empire State Plaza, Suite 1001
Albany, NY 12223-1150
leffingw@emi.com

Principal Investigator: Deborah Buck
800/522-4369 (V/TTY/Spanish, in state only); 518/474-2825 (V); 518/473-4231 (TTY); Fax: 518/473-6005

Project Number: H224A00041
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $500,000; FY 91 $600,000; FY 92 $615,000; FY 93 $820,961; FY 94 $950,000; FY 95 $950,000; FY 96 $879,406; FY 97 $917,406

Abstract: The Technology-Related Assistance of Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID) Project has been established to improve access to assistive technology through consumer-responsive interventions to effect permanent systemic change on a policy, regulatory, and legislative level. Project staff members chair and facilitate the workings of the NYS Interagency Partnership on Assistive Technology, a group designed to identify systemic barriers to assistive technology devices and services and collaborate on strategies to address the barriers. In collaboration with the NYS Department of Health, Early Intervention Program, and Bell Atlantic, the local telecommunications corporation, the TRAID Project administers 12 Regional TRAID Centers that operate device demonstration and loan services, coordinate local information and referral, and support individualized self-advocacy. The TRAID Project also provides information and referral regarding assistive technology, provides training and public awareness, and administers the TRAID-IN Equipment Exchange service.

National Classification System for Assistive Technology Devices and Services

Research Triangle Institute (RTI) (Lead agency)
Center for Research in Education
3040 Cornwallis Road
P.O. Box 12194
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194
trc@rti.org

Principal Investigator: Thomas R. Curtin, Project Director
919/541-6538 (V/TTY); Fax: 919/541-6854

Project Number: HN970510
Date Originally Funded: September 30, 1997
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY $99,998

Abstract: The Research Triangle Institute (RTI) is conducting several focus groups with users of AT devices and services, and a literature search for information regarding classification systems and lists of assistive technology devices and services. The study team is reviewing: (1) existing lists of AT devices and services to identify and analyze the essential elements of all product descriptions, (2) the most effective ways of describing AT devices and services, (3) any missing information in existing AT classification systems, (4) benefits and drawbacks of current lists, (5) the informational needs of various constituent groups, and (6) other pertinent material. This information is used to develop a national classification that includes a single taxonomy and nomenclature for all AT devices and services. Following development of the classification system, RTI is designing a data collection system that uses the newly devised classification system to obtain uniform information on AT devices and services from a wide range of agencies and programs. Lastly, RTI is preparing a final report that documents the process used to develop the national classification system and the associated data collection instruments. The report provides a blueprint for full-scale implementation of the data collection system.

North Carolina

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (Lead agency)
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
1110 Navaho Drive, Suite 101
Raleigh, NC 27609-7322
rickic@mindspring.com
http://www.mindspring.com/~ncatp

Principal Investigator: Ricki Cook
919/850-2787 (V/TTY); Fax: 919/850-2792

Project Number: H224A00010
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $566,425; FY 91 $595,441; FY 92 $625,843; FY 93 $730,152; FY 94 $820,000; FY 95 $820,000; FY 96 $759,066; FY 97 $797,066
Abstract: This project provides information and referral services, technical assistance, and training seminars and materials. It supports four regional demonstration centers that provide demonstration and trial of devices. The project's central office in Raleigh coordinates systems change and advocacy, policy, and funding issues statewide. The North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services provides the project with internal management systems, agency resources, and fiscal management.

Comprehensive Statewide Program of Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities

North Dakota Department of Human Services (Lead agency)
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
P.O. Box 743
Cavalier, ND 58220
lee@pioneer.state.nd.us
http://www.ndipat.org

Principal Investigator: Judith A. Lee
888/214-2780 (V/TTY information and referral); 800/265-4728 (V/TTY office); 701/265-4807 (V/TTY); Fax: 701/265-3150

Project Number: H224A30003
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $500,000; FY 94 $540,000; FY 95 $540,000; FY 96 $509,130; FY 97 $547,130

Abstract: The North Dakota Interagency Project for Assistive Technology (IPAT) builds local capacity through consumer-responsive outreach activities, regional coordinator training, and activities designed to build the capacity of minority and young populations. The project empowers consumer choice, control, and independence, through access to a full range of technology assistance by providing short-term access to assistive technology devices via an interagency loan library and long-term information access. Facilitation of change is established through interagency working agreements and development of advocacy resources.

CNMI System of Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (STRAID)

CNMI Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council (Lead agency)
Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 2565
Capitol Hill
Saipan, MP 96950
dd.council@saipan.com

Principal Investigator: Thomas J. Camacho, Executive Director
011/670/322-3015 (V)
Contact: Celia B. Lamkin, MD, Project Coordinator
011/670/322-3014 (V/TTY); Fax: 011/670-322-4168

Project Number: H224A40007
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1994 **Phase:** 1st year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $150,000; FY 95 $150,000; FY 96 $150,000; FY 97 $150,000
Abstract: This project provides technology-related assistance for people with disabilities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project focuses on the development of a locally based system that provides technology-related needs of children, youth, and adults with disabilities. The primary objective of this project is to enhance opportunities for people with disabilities in the Commonwealth to become independent, productive, integrated, and fully included in the community. Through increased emphasis on coordination with agencies or organizations that provide or pay for the provision of assistive technology devices or services, the Developmental Disabilities Council is building and activating a system that responds to people with disabilities' needs to: (1) have greater control over their lives; (2) participate in, and contribute more fully to, activities in their home, school, work environments, and in the community; (3) interact to a greater extent with individuals who do not have disabilities; and (4) benefit from opportunities that are taken for granted by individuals who do not have disabilities.

Ohio Project on Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities: Ohio TRAIN - Tech Act Project

Ohio State University Research Foundation (Lead agency)
Ohio Supercomputer Center
1224 Kinnear Road
Columbus, OH 43212-1163
info@mailcar.ovl.osc.edu
http://train.ovl.osc.edu

Principal Investigator: Sheldon R. Simon, MD
Contact: Douglas Huntt, Executive Director
800/784-3425 (V/TTY, in state only); 614/292-2426 (V); 614/292-3162 (TTY); Fax: 614/292-5866

Project Number: H224A40001
Date Originally Funded: August 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $522,100; FY 93 $522,000; FY 94 $770,113; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $555,414; FY 97 $593,414
Abstract: This project represents consumers of assistive technology in the state of Ohio. It assists in the development and implementation of strategies to overcome barriers regarding access to, provision of, and funding for, assistive technology services and devices, with priority for identification of barriers to funding through state education (including special education), vocational rehabilitation services, medical assistance services, and, as appropriate, other health and human services, with particular emphasis on overcoming barriers for underrepresented and rural populations.

Oklahoma ABLE Tech

Oklahoma State University (Lead agency)
1514 West Hall of Fame
Stillwater, OK 74078
http://www.okstate.edu/wellness/at-home.htm

Principal Investigator: Jim Rogers, Project Director
405/744-7079 (V)
Contact: Linda Jaco, Project Manager
800/257-1705 (V/TTY, in state only); 405/744-9864 (V); Fax: 405/744-7670

Project Number: H224A50007
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $530,000; FY 93 $668,524 (includes carryover funding); FY 94 $530,000; FY 95 $575,000; FY 96 $532,272; FY 97 $570,272
Abstract: This project is fostering interagency coordination by working closely with public and private agencies, established consumer groups, and parent networks in order to maximize its impact throughout the state. Sixty-four of Oklahoma's 77 counties are rural and sparsely populated. The project works with the state Department of Education to increase the provision of technology-related assistance throughout the state's 550 school districts. Interagency coordination is a primary factor in establishing Oklahoma's Information and Referral System. An extensive training program ensures that the project's staff, subcontractors, councils, committees, and task forces are prepared to: (1) implement its systems change effort; (2) enhance the capabilities of public and private agencies, educators, and service providers to provide technology-related assistance; and (3) create a network of empowered parents and others with disabilities. A significant amount of the training is accomplished with the twenty curriculum modules developed by the project, and through coordination with other agencies that provide training.

Oregon

Technology Access for Life Needs

Oregon Disabilities Commission (Lead agency)
1257 Ferry Street Southeast
Salem, OR 97310
ati@orednet.org

Principal Investigator: Susan McNaught, Project Director
800/677-7512 (in state only); 503/399-4950 (V/TTY); Fax: 503/378-3599

Project Number: H224A50002
Date Originally Funded: April 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $540,000; FY 91 $555,000; FY 92 $575,000; FY 93 $620,000; FY 94 $670,000; FY 95 $670,000; FY 96 $620,212; FY 97 $620,212
Abstract: This project expands the availability of assistive technology in Oregon by using existing resources, including community colleges, medical, rehabilitation, educational, and recreational and adaptive sports programs, the state library system, federally funded technology projects currently in existence in Oregon, state agencies, and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. Projects include an exhibit to increase public awareness, a toll-free number for information and referral, training programs, equipment loan banks and demonstration labs, and a database on used equipment. The Regional Technology Information Centers are built into the funding structure of the community colleges.

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Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT)

Temple University (Lead agency)
Institute on Disabilities/UAP
Ritter Annex, Room 433
Philadelphia, PA 19122
piat@astro.ocis.temple.edu
http://www.temple.edu/inst_disabilities

Principal Investigator: Diane Bryen, PhD
Contact: Amy S. Goldman
800/204-7428 (V); 800/750-7428 (TTY); 215/204-5968 (V/TTY); Fax: 215/204-9371

Project Number: H224A20006
Date Originally Funded: September 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $550,000; FY 93 $602,623; FY 94 $730,000; FY 95 $850,000; FY 96 $786,837; FY 97 $824,837
Abstract: This project focuses on the creation of a consumer responsive system through which Pennsylvanians with disabilities (including older Pennsylvanians) have access to the assistive technology services and supports they need to contribute to and participate fully in their communities. Major functional areas include public awareness, information and referral, individual advocacy and systems change, and training. PIAT has established a network of nine regional Assistive Technology Resource Centers (ATRCs) located at centers for independent living, as well as a rural outreach program through AgrAbility for Pennsylvanians. A subcontract through PennTech, a statewide program of the Pennsylvania Department of Education, has established a short-term equipment loan program for adults or children who do not have access to a resource for trying certain assistive technology devices before purchase. This program will be expanded through a new contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare.

Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Project for Persons with Disabilities

University of Puerto Rico (Lead agency)
Medical Sciences Campus
College of Health Related Professions
Office of Research and Development
Box 365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067
pratp@rcmad.upr.clu.edu

Principal Investigator: María I. Miranda
787/764-6035 (V)
800/496-6035 (V/TTY, from the U.S.); 800/981-6033 (V/TTY, from Puerto Rico); 787/758-2525, ext. 4402, 4406, 4413, 4412; 787/754-8034 (TTY); 787/767-8642 (V); Fax: 787/754-8034

Project Number: H224A70001
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $500,000; FY 94 $545,000; FY 95 $555,000; FY 96 $513,758; FY 97 $551,758
Abstract: This project is establishing a comprehensive islandwide system of AT services to maximize and enhance existing resources in Puerto Rico. This system is timely and consumer-responsive to the needs of people with disabilities. The project's main focus is to influence the system through collaborative efforts with public and private agencies to guarantee equal opportunity and access to assistive technology by people with disabilities in Puerto Rico. The Assistive Technology Program is administered by the University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Office of Research and Development.

Rhode Island Assistive Technology Access Partnership (ATAP)

Rhode Island Department of Human Services (Lead agency)
Office of Rehabilitation Services
40 Fountain Street
Providence, RI 02903-1898
rcarroll@ors.state.ri.us; solson@atap.state.ri.us
http://www.ors.state.ri.us/assistiv.htm

Principal Investigator: Raymond A. Carroll, Acting Administrator
Contact: Susan Olson, Project Director
800/752-8088, ext. 2608 (V, in state only); 401/421-7005 (V); 401/421-7016 (TTY); Fax: 401/421-9259

Project Number: H224A30012
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $500,000; FY 94 $500,000; FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $538,000

Abstract: This project develops a consumer-responsive, coordinated partnership of Rhode Island resources by the organization of communication, training, and support linkages around assistive technology sites. Consumer participation has been integrated throughout the project and a consumer-majority advisory council oversees all aspects of the project. The project has facilitated the development of peer-support networks regarding assistive technology and has organized training workshops regarding specific assistive technology applications and advocacy issues. ATAP has been promoted in the community through brochures, a quarterly newsletter, training workshops, outreach, surveys, and a yearly conference. The project has developed a resource guide on assistive technology and is a resource link to national and regional information sources. A coordinated training effort for consumers, ATAP staff, and service providers includes advocacy skill building, decision-making skills, awareness about specific technologies and low-tech solutions, and training that assists individuals to obtain and use devices.

South Carolina Assistive Technology Program (SCATP)

University of South Carolina School of Medicine (Lead agency)
Center for Developmental Disabilities-UAP
Columbia, SC 29208
scatp@scsn.net; evelyne@cdd.sc.edu; gingerj@cdd.sc.edu
http://www.scsn.net/users/scatp

Principal Investigator: Richard Ferrante
803/777-7093 (V)
Contact: Evelyn Evans, Director
803/935-5263 (V/TTY); Fax: 803/935-5342

Project Number: H224A60001
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1991 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 91 $541,767; FY 92 $541,767; FY 93 $595,767; FY 94 $720,000; FY 95 $720,000; FY 96 $667,000; FY 97 $704,497
Abstract: This project is the catalyst for uniting assistive technology services statewide into an easily accessible system that is responsive to the needs of all South Carolinians with disabilities. SCATP collaborates with state agencies, policy makers, and private entities to overcome barriers that prevent people from getting the devices and services that they need for living full and productive lives. Systems change activities are developed with a three-tiered approach: to state agency administrators, service providers, and consumers. Rather than direct provision of services, SCATP focuses on strengthening systems so that they are mutually reinforcing and self-sustaining beyond the life of the grant. The major funding streams of the Vocational Rehabilitation Department, Medicaid, the Department of Education, and private insurance are targeted. Systems change activities are connected to training and technical assistance activities, that are in turn supportive of systems change. All activities are guided by input and responsiveness to consumers and their families.

South Dakota Assistive Technology Project (DakotaLink)

DakotaLink (Lead agency)
1925 Plaza Boulevard
Rapid City, SD 57702
rreed@sdtie.sdserv.org
http://www.tie.net/dakotalink

Principal Investigator: David Miller
605/773-3195 (V)
Contact: Ron Reed, PhD
800/645-0673 (V/TTY, in state only); 605/394-1876 (V/TTY); Fax: 605/394-5315

Project Number: H224A20019
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $520,000; FY 93 $520,000; FY 94 $620,000; FY 95 $650,000; FY 96 $601,699; FY 97 $601,699
Abstract: To achieve systems change, DakotaLink works with consumers, state and private agencies, and organizations who provide services to, or advocate for, people with disabilities to identify and eliminate barriers to individuals receiving assistive technology devices or services in a timely manner. The project uses two mobile units, outreach coordinators, and training programs as a catalyst to: (1) reach the most underserved areas; (2) provide advocacy training for people with disabilities and their representatives; (3) continue utilization of the Native American Outreach Coordinator to reach specifically that underserved population; and (4) provide information support to all individuals regarding access to, provision of, and funding for assistive technology devices and services.

Tennessee Technology Access Project

Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (Lead agency)
Andrew Johnson Tower, Tenth Floor
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0675
rroberts2@mail.state.tn.us
http://www.state.tn.us/mental/ttap.html

Principal Investigator: Rob Roberts, PhD
800/732-5059 (V - in state only); 615/741-4566 (TTY); 615/532-6558 (V); Fax: 615/532-6719

Project Number: H224A00003
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $550,000; FY 91 $553,675; FY 92 $553,675; FY 93 $640,800; FY 94 $665,000; FY 95 $665,000; FY 96 $615,584; FY 97 $653,584
Abstract: The Tennessee project emphasizes the implementation and pursuit of systems change and advocacy activities by the development of an information/communication network, working with state agency policy values, and developing alternate funding mechanisms. The administrative/organizational structure involves consumers, and facilitates interagency cooperation and interaction with the private sector.

Texas Assistive Technology Partnership Project

University of Texas at Austin (Lead agency)
Texas University Affiliated Program
SZB 252 - D5100
Austin, TX 78712-1290
s.elrod@mail.utexas.edu
http://www.edb.utexas.edu/coe/depts/sped/TATP/TATP.html

Principal Investigator: Penny Seay
Contact: Susanne Elrod
800/828-7839 (V/TTY, in state only); 512/471-7621 (V); 512/471-1844 (TTY); Fax: 512/471-7549

Project Number: H224A20012
Date Originally Funded: August 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $550,000; FY 93 $550,000; FY 94 $550,000; FY 95 $850,000; FY 96 $786,837; FY 97 $824,837
Abstract: This project is guided by a unified, consumer-led policy-making council that monitors all aspects of the project. Major components include public policy advocacy and statewide systems change, protection and advocacy services (Advocacy, Inc., a protection and advocacy system), assistive technology training, information and referral, and statewide public awareness activities.

U.S. Virgin Islands Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities

University of the Virgin Islands (Lead agency)
Virgin Islands University Affiliated Program (VIUAP)
#2 John Brewer Bay
St. Thomas, USVI 00802
yhabtes@uvi.edu

Principal Investigator: Yegin Habtes, PhD
809/693-1323; Fax: 809/693-1325

Project Number: H224A50005
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1995 **Phase:** 3rd year, development grant
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $150,000; FY 96 $150,000; FY 97 $150,000
Other Funding: FY 95 $6,400
Abstract: The Virgin Islands project disseminates necessary information on assistive technologies for people with disabilities and provides a venue for device demonstration through the establishment of two resource centers, on the islands of St. Thomas and St. Criox. The project is also initiating an AT loan library.

Utah

Utah Assistive Technology Program (UATP)

Utah State University (Lead agency)
Center for Persons with Disabilities
6855 University Boulevard
Logan, UT 84322-6855
sharon@cpd2.usu.edu

Principal Investigator: Marvin G. Fifield, EdD
435/797-1982 (V); 435/797-3824 (TTY); Fax: 435/797-2355

Project Number: H224A90051
Date Originally Funded: November 1, 1989 **Phase:** 4th year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 89 $505,445; FY 90 $507,720; FY 91 $559,720; FY 92 $696,224; FY 93 $788,526; FY 94 $800,000; FY 95 $800,000; FY 96 $740,560; FY 97 $555,414
Abstract: This project provides alternative funding and a low-interest, guaranteed loan program for AT. It has strengthened and coordinated AT access centers in rural sections of the state. Consumer and provider councils identify procedural barriers and recommend resolutions. A comprehensive information and referral system was established and is maintained with information about AT, state service systems, and information on the ADA. Funding sources to purchase AT devices are expanded by: (1) improving state appropriations; (2) employing funding experts; (3) establishing a low-interest, guaranteed loan program; and (4) developing a forward funding plan. An aggressive outreach program directed toward underrepresented populations promotes awareness training about AT for providers and the general public by developing and using videotapes, public service announcements for television and radio stations, brochures, and a newsletter. The project has established an interagency coordination plan for AT policies and practices to promote legislation, expand state support of the AT access coordinators in independent living centers, and coordinate activities of the AT access centers.

Vermont Assistive Technology Project

Department of Aging and Disabilities (Lead agency)
103 South Main Street, First Floor
Waterbury, VT 05671-2305
resna.ta.vt@applelink.apple.com; lynnc@dad.state.vt.us
http://www.state.vt.us/dad/atp/cats.htm

Principal Investigator: Lynne Cleveland
800/750-6355 (V/TTY, in state only); 802/241-2620 (V/TTY); Fax: 802/241-2174

Project Number: H224A00023
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $553,048; FY 91 $560,577; FY 92 $581,417; FY 93 $705,000; FY 94 $700,000; FY 95 $700,000; FY 96 $647,983; FY 97 $685,983
Abstract: The Vermont Assistive Technology Project encompasses a state coordinating council for assistive technology issues; regional centers for demonstration, trial, and technical support with computer and augmentative communication equipment; and regional seating and positioning centers. The project affects change in policies and procedures of public and private agencies, and maintains a used equipment recycling program. It supports an annual computer training institute for educators and an annual recreation equipment expo. The project continues to expand Web access to AT information and resources, and to integrate AT knowledge and expertise into existing public and private agencies.

Technical Assistance Grant

RESNA (Lead agency)
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1540
Arlington, VA 22209-1903
resnata@resna.org
http://www.resna.org/hometa1.htm

Principal Investigator: James R. Geletka, Executive Director
Contact: Nell Bailey
703/524-6686, ext. 313 (V); 703/524-6639 (TTY); Fax: 703/524-6630

Project Number: H224A50006
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1995
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $749,925; FY 96 $749,925; FY 97 $749,925
Abstract: This grant: (1) provides resources for states and territories receiving funding under P.L. 103-218 and for other states to develop and implement their technology-related assistance programs, (2) publishes information bulletins and other written materials, (3) designs an evaluation package to analyze states' progress toward a consumer-responsive delivery system, (4) develops a database of Tech Act project products and activities, (5) hosts meetings and regional workshops designed to meet the needs of states, (6) conducts teleconferences, and (7) brings together experts who can provide ongoing support to states and individuals.

Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS)

Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services (Lead agency)
8004 Franklin Farms Drive
Richmond, VA 23288-0300
http://www.vcu.edu/rrtcweb/Vats/vatsview.html

Principal Investigator: Kenneth Knorr
800/435-8490 (V/TTY, in state only); 804/662-9990 (V/TTY); 800/210-5414 (BBS); Fax: 804/662-9478

Project Number: H224A00009
Date Originally Funded: June 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $550,000; FY 91 $562,500; FY 92 $578,883; FY 93 $685,331; FY 94 $663,467; FY 95 $745,000; FY 96 $689,639; FY 97 $727,639
Abstract: The Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS) project provides coordination at three levels: state policy, through the mechanism of interagency agreements; project management, through the mechanism of the advisory council; and at the local and regional level, through four assistive technology regional sites. Activities include information and referral services, technical assistance, training materials and seminars, and creative grant programs and policy development. The project has produced a textbook, *Assistive Technology: A Resource for School, Work, and Community* (Brookes Publishing) and a *National Study of Loan Financing Programs.*

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Washington Assistive Technology Alliance (WATA)

Washington Department of Social and Health Services (Lead agency)
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
University of Washington Affiliated Programs
Box 357920
Seattle, WA 98195-7920
uwat@u.washington.edu
http://wata.org

Principal Investigator: Jeanne Munro
360/438-8008 (V); 360/438-8644 (TTY)
Contact: Debbie Cook, Project Director
800/841-8345 (V/TTY, in state only); 206/685-4181 (V); 206/616-1396 (TTY); Fax: 206/543-4779

Project Number: H224A30006
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 2nd year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Carol Cohen
NIDRR Funding: FY 93 $525,090; FY 94 $580,000; FY 95 $600,000; FY 96 $555,414; FY 97 $593,414
Abstract: Activities for this project include information, consultation, and training related to selection of technology devices, services and funding; legal advice and advocacy; policy development; legislative action; technical consultation and training; publications; and online resources. WATA is a consumer advocacy network that includes the AT Resource Center at the University of Washington, the AT Resource Center at Easter Seal Society in Spokane, and the Washington Protection and Advocacy System. The project is administered by the state Division of Vocational Rehabilitation with guidance from the Consumer Majority Advisory Board.

West Virginia Assistive Technology System (WVATS)

West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services (Lead agency)
Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305-0890
http://www.wvu.edu/~uacdd/wvat.htm

Principal Investigator: Janice A. Holland
304/766-4694 (V)
Contact: Jeanne Grimm
800/841-8436 (V/TTY, in state only); 304/293-4692 (V/TTY); Fax: 304/293-7294

Project Number: H224A20011
Date Originally Funded: July 1, 1992 **Phase:** 1st year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 92 $530,000; FY 93 $530,000; FY 94 $620,000; FY 95 $620,000; FY 96 $573,928; FY 97 $611,928
Abstract: The WVATS project seeks to improve the availability of assistive technology (AT) by improving existing AT services, facilitating coordination of AT service-delivery programs, identifying and remediating gaps in services, and promoting, developing, and/or delivering new services. These systemic changes are carried out in response to and consonant with consumer advice, direction, and consent. The West Virginia project has a board composed primarily of consumers and their families. State organizations and agencies provide guidance, structure, and input. WVATS uses a "core" system directed by a board, overseen by the Division of Rehabilitation Services, and managed on a day-to-day basis by the West Virginia University Affiliated Center for Developmental Disabilities. WVATS supports program staff, an information and referral system with a toll-free number, two resource centers, a statewide awareness campaign, training programs, and seven regional technology-related assistance teams.

Wisconsin

Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities: WisTech

Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (Lead agency)
P.O. Box 7852
Madison, WI 53707-7852
kiddesb@mail.state.wi.us

Principal Investigator: Susan Kidder
608/243-5675 (V/TTY)
608/243-5674 (V/TTY); Fax: 608/243-5681

Project Number: H224A00013
Date Originally Funded: May 1, 1990 **Phase:** 3rd year of the 2nd extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 90 $572,871; FY 91 $575,000; FY 92 $590,313; FY 93 $685,488; FY 94 $730,000; FY 95 $730,000; FY 96 $675,754; FY 97 $713,754

Abstract: The Wisconsin initiative focuses on systems change through a combination of state policy focus, use of the state's Protection and Advocacy Agency (Wisconsin Coalition for Advocacy), and the state's independent living centers (ILCs). The ILCs, in eight regions of the state, provide advocacy for consumers in related assistive technology cases at the local level. Cases of significance or that require technical assistance are referred to the Protection and Advocacy Agency, or the state program for advocacy work. WisTech continues to optimize consumer control and involvement by obtaining direction from its state consumer advisory board, which is made up of 51 percent consumers or parents. WisTech works to obtain additional state money to finance a consumer assistive technology loan program and to continue to fund the assistive technology loan/try-out programs at the ILCs.

Wyoming

Wyoming New Options in Technology (WYNOT)

University of Wyoming (Lead agency)
Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND)
P.O. Box 4298
Laramie, WY 82071-4298
tmcveigh@uwyo.edu
http://www.uwyo.edu/hs/wind/wynot/wynot.htm

Principal Investigator: Tom McVeigh, Director
307/766-2764 (V); 307/766-2720 (TTY); Fax: 307/766-2763

Project Number: H224A60002
Date Originally Funded: October 1, 1993 **Phase:** 1st year of the 1st extension
NIDRR Officer: Judith Fein
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $500,000; FY 95 $500,000; FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $500,000
Abstract: Wyoming New Options in Technology (WYNOT) is a project designed to develop and implement a consumer directed statewide system of technology-related assistance for people with disabilities of all ages. The Assistive Technology Advisory Council (ATAC), which consists of consumers or their parents or representatives, oversees project goals. The remainder of the ATAC consists of state agency representatives and vendors who can influence systems change and advocacy activities. Systems Change Teams (SCTs), located throughout the state, gather and disseminate information on a local basis and help identify barriers. Protection and Advocacy (P&A) conducts advocacy training and provides legal representation for people with disabilities who have been denied access to assistive technology services or devices. The Resource Center, located at 2020 Grand Avenue, Suite 430, Laramie WY 82070, provides information and referral services; operates an equipment loan bank and an equipment exchange program; provides financial resource information, outreach services, and statewide training on assistive technology issues; and disseminates systems change information.

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ADA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) opens new opportunities for persons with disabilities. It also places new responsibilities on employers, transit and communications systems, state and local governments, and public accommodations. To assist covered parties to understand and comply with the ADA, NIDRR has funded a network of grantees to provide information, training, and technical assistance to businesses and agencies with duties and responsibilities under the ADA and to people with disabilities who have rights under the ADA. Ten regional Disability and Business Technical Assistance Centers (DBTACs) are funded to provide information and referral, technical assistance, public awareness, and training on all aspects of the ADA; three National Training Projects (NTPs) target particular groups, organizations, or subject areas for ADA training; and the ADA Technical Assistance Coordinator contract assists all of NIDRR's ADA technical assistance grantees with their activities.

The toll-free number for information, materials, or technical assistance on the ADA is **800/949-4232 (V/TTY).** This number will automatically route the DBTAC in the caller's region.

Region I - CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT

New England Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region I

Adaptive Environments Center, Inc.
374 Congress Street, Suite 301
Boston, MA 02210
eostroff@adaptenv.org
http://www.adaptenv.org

Principal Investigator: Elaine Ostroff, Project Director
617/695-1225, ext. 30
800/949-4232 (V/TTY in CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT); 617/695-1225, ext. 31 (V/TTY); Fax: 617/482-8099

Project Number: H133D60015
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $499,830; FY 97 $538,400
Abstract: The New England DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The project's emphasis is on assuring that the knowledge and skills to implement the ADA are infused within state and local organizations. Contracts with each state and with local independent living centers extend the technical assistance throughout the region. The DBTAC uses a toll-free telephone hotline, a World Wide Web site, electronic mailing lists, and audio teleconferencing to extend its reach throughout New England. There is a strong emphasis on training of trainers, and the project has established a Training and Technical Assistance Resource Center that supports trainers and technical assistance providers. A regional advisory board, consisting of representatives from each state, including centers for independent living, parent programs, seniors, businesses, and state and local governments, provides guidance, helps prioritize the use of incentive grants, and evaluates DBTAC efforts.

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Region II - NJ, NY, PR, and VI

Northeast Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region II

United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New Jersey
354 South Broad Street
Trenton, NJ 08608
ucpanjdbtac@aol.com

Principal Investigator: Jennifer Eckel
Contact: Huntley Forrester, Project Director
800/949-4232 (V/TTY, in NJ, NY, PR, and VI); 609/392-4004 (V); 609/392-7044 (TTY); Fax: 609/392-3505

Project Number: H133D60013
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $550,000; FY 97 $469,855
Abstract: The Northeast DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. In this collaborative effort, United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New Jersey functions as the lead agency, providing technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for New Jersey, and coordinating the activities of the satellite program. The satellites are: the New York State Office of Advocate for Persons with Disabilities, serving New York; the Asociacion de Padres Pro Bienestar de Niños con Impedimentos de Puerto Rico, serving Puerto Rico; and the Virgin Islands Family Information Network on Disabilities, serving the Virgin Islands. Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations provides training services and management support for the DBTAC in Region II.

Mid-Atlantic Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region III

TransCen, Inc.
451 Hungerford Drive, Suite 607
Rockville, MD 20850
adainfo@transcen.org
http://www.adainfo.org

Principal Investigator: Marian S. Vessels, Project Director
800/949-4232 (V/TTY in DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, and WV); 301/217-0124 (V/TTY); Fax: 301/217-0754

Project Number: H133D60006
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $575,000; FY 97 $578,000
Abstract: The Mid-Atlantic DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. It focuses on two major initiatives to implement the ADA effectively: (1) increasing the capacity of state and local organizations to implement the ADA by developing six ADA coalitions, made up of employers, people with disabilities, nonprofit organizations, state and local governments, independent living centers, and other covered entities to provide technical assistance, coordinate training, disseminate information, and promote awareness of the ADA on the local level; and (2) providing a wide range of technical assistance services, training, and information, and information dissemination to individuals and entities with responsibilities and rights under the ADA.

Region IV - AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN

Southeast Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region IV

United Cerebral Palsy Associations, Inc.
1776 Peachtree Road, Suite 208 North
Atlanta, GA 30309-2351
sedbtac@ucpa.org
http://www.sedbtac.org

Principal Investigator: Shelley Kaplan, Project Director
800/949-4232 (V/TTY, in AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN); 404/888-0022 (V/TTY); Fax: 404/888-9091

Project Number: H133D60018
Start Date: November 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $709,031

Abstract: The Southeast DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. The DBTAC: (1) facilitates timely access to information and technical assistance by establishing a regional and state presence on the Internet, including bulletin boards, listserv mailing lists, and a Web page; (2) enhances the capacity of DBTAC state affiliates by continuing to assist in maintaining and updating their libraries of ADA-related resource materials, and by establishing an instate mentoring program for co-training and assistance in developing ADA awareness within locales; (3) facilitates state linkages among groups protected by the ADA and entities with responsibilities under the ADA, resulting in effective ADA implementation over the long term; and (4) expands outreach to people with and without disabilities who are from minority backgrounds. VISTA volunteers in two states are initiating and coordinating outreach activities to African American, Asian, and Hispanic communities, and an information initiative in all eight states is targeted to minority-owned businesses as well as to community organizations, networks, and media serving various ethnic populations.

Region V - IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, and WI

Great Lakes Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region V

University of Illinois/Chicago
Institute on Disability and Human Development
1640 West Roosevelt Road
Chicago, IL 60608-6904
gldbtac@uic.edu
http://www.gldbtac.org

Principal Investigator: David Braddock, PhD
312/413-1647
Contact: Robin Jones, Project Director
800/949-4232 (V/TTY, in IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, and WI); 312/413-1407 (V/TTY);
Fax: 312/413-1856

Project Number: H133D60011
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $700,000; FY 97 $738,018

Abstract: The Great Lakes DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. GLDBTAC has developed standing ADA Committees in each state which represent the business community, government agencies, disability rights groups, and other interested parties. These committees share their successes with one another, encouraging cross-promotion and regionwide implementation of the programs that have the greatest impact. The members of these committees also serve as a referral network that can be called upon to address local issues. The state ADA Committees conduct training conferences, provide technical support, and address ADA needs that are unique to each state. GLDBTAC disseminates updated information regarding implementation of the ADA to interested parties throughout the region via its quarterly newsletter, *Region V News*, in order to increase knowledge and awareness of the law. The project also stresses the identification and diffusion of innovative ADA ideas used by businesses and other agencies to assist with ADA implementation issues. This effort promotes creative and cost-effective compliance strategies while reinforcing the idea that meeting the ADA requirements does not always have to be complicated or expensive.

Region VI - AR, LA, NM, OK, and TX

Southwest Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region VI

The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR)
Independent Living Research Utilization
2323 South Shepherd Boulevard, Suite 1000
Houston, TX 77019
lfrieden@ilru.org

Principal Investigator: Lex Frieden
Contact: Wendy Wilkinson, Project Director
800/949-4232 (V/TTY, in AR, LA, NM, OK, and TX); 713/520-0232 (V); 713/520-5136 (TTY); Fax: 713/520-5785

Project Number: H133D60012
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $550,000; FY 97 $550,000
Abstract: The Southwest DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination on the ADA for Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. The DBTAC is based at Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU), a program of The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR) in Houston Texas. The DBTAC carries out its activities with the assistance of a number of affiliated organizations in all the states it serves. Ongoing activities of the DBTAC include ADA outreach to Hispanic individuals. DBTAC affiliates include Centers for Independent Living in each state, the Consumer Education Foundation of the Better Business Bureau in Austin Texas, the Center for Health Policy and Law at the University of Houston, and the Regional Rehabilitation Continuing Education Program (RRCEP).

Region VII - IA, KS, MO, and NE

Great Plains Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region VII

University of Missouri/Columbia
4812 Santana Circle
Columbia, MO 65203
adalh@showme.missouri.edu
http://www.idir.net/~adabbs/general/dbtact.html

Principal Investigator: Jim de Jong, Project Co-Director; David Roberts, Project Co-Director
573/882-3807 (V)
800/949-4232 (V/TTY in IA, KS, MO, and NE); 573/882-3600 (V/TTY); Fax: 573/884-4925

Project Number: H133D60004
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $500,000; FY 97 $535,000
Abstract: The Great Plains DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. It has established working relationships with five separate state affiliates who assist with the mission and objectives of the overall project. Seventy-five state advisory council members provide direction, feedback, and assistance to the regional office and state affiliates, and forty-five local community-based organizations assist with local capacity building and the provision of direct ADA services within their service areas. This cooperative partnership produces a circle of dissemination and feedback ensuring customer-oriented responsiveness by the Great Plains DBTAC. The regional office directs the project by coordinating and supporting the activities of the state affiliates and the state advisory councils and by disseminating information throughout the Region VII network. Local capacity-building efforts are promoted by the Great Plains DBTAC regional office working cooperatively with state affiliates, state advisory councils, and local community-based organizations. Distribution of materials occurs through mailings, via the electronic bulletin board system, and during trainings.

Region VIII - CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY

Rocky Mountain Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region VIII

Meeting the Challenge, Inc.
3630 Sinton Road, Suite 103
Colorado Springs, CO 80907-5072
going@mtc-inc.com
http://www.ada-infonet.org

Principal Investigator: Patrick E. Going, Project Director
800/949-4232 (V/TTY, in CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY); 719/444-0268 (V/TTY);
Fax: 719/444-0269

Project Number: H133D60010
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $512,997; FY 97 $616,754
Abstract: The Rocky Mountain DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. The project includes a centralized InfoCenter that serves as a clearinghouse, a network of experts qualified to provide assistance, and linkages with groups who have rights and responsibilities under the ADA. Information is disseminated through electronic bulletin boards, databases, direct mail, a newsletter, the general media, and the telephone.

Pacific Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region IX

Public Health Institute
2168 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 301
Berkeley, CA 94704-1307
adatech@pdbtac.com
http://www.pacdbtac.org

Principal Investigator: Erica C. Jones, Project Director
510/848-2980 (V); 510/848-1840 (TTY)
800/949-4232 (V/TTY, in AZ, CA, HI, NV, and the Pacific Basin); Fax: 510/848-1981

Project Number: H133D60016
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Richard Johnson, EdD
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $650,000; FY 97 $753,682
Abstract: The Pacific DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and the Pacific Basin. The DBTAC coordinates and conducts regional conferences, individual state and local trainings, and workshops about the provisions of the ADA. The Center also works to increase the level of local entities' capacities to provide expertise to ensure that implementation of the ADA will occur. The Pacific DBTAC engages in minority outreach and training, and uses electronic distance learning techniques to reach underserved geographic locations. The current network of affiliates is being expanded to enhance local capacity through a home page on the World Wide Web and by creating partnerships with business, state and local government agencies, and people with disabilities. By increasing awareness in the region through a comprehensive marketing and communications plan, the project is fulfilling the NIDRR DBTAC priorities.

Region X - AK, ID, OR, and WA

Northwest Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center — Region X

Washington State Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment
P.O. Box 9046, MS 6000
Olympia, WA 98507-9046

Principal Investigator: Toby Olson, Project Director
800/949-4232 (V/TTY, in AK, ID, OR, and WA); 360/438-4116 (V/TTY); Fax: 360/438-3208; 360/438-4014

Project Number: H133D60009
Start Date: October 1, 1996 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 96 $512,500; FY 97 $484,322
Abstract: The Northwest DBTAC provides technical assistance, training, and information dissemination for Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. A subcontract has been established with a consumer-controlled, community-based organization in each of the states in Region X. The activities of the project are directed toward augmenting community capacities, and the existing organizational structures found within those communities are the avenues through which the project does much of its work. The project maintains a central clearinghouse and a toll-free number for information, technical assistance, and referral to national, regional, state, and local resources. The clearinghouse provides callers with an appropriate range of options and links them with individuals in their community who have gained expertise in the caller's area of concern.

ADA Training for State and Local Government ADA Coordinators and Policymakers

National League of Cities
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, Fifth Floor
Washington, DC 20004

Principal Investigator: Antoinette Samuel
202/626-3000 (V)
Contact: Renee Winsky
202/626-3126 (V); 202/626-3045 (TTY); Fax: 202/626-3043

Project Number: H133D50011
Start Date: February 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $249,975; FY 96 $175,504; FY 97 $187,104
Abstract: The National League of Cities (NLC) leads this training grant in partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the Council of State Governments (CSG). ADA Vantage, a nationally-recognized training and consulting firm specializing in ADA issues and compliance strategies, provides contract services to the partnership as part of the project. The purpose of this training and comprehensive assistance project is to ensure greater voluntary compliance with the ADA among state and local government officials by equipping them with the information and skills they need to implement the ADA throughout their government entities. The training is targeted to state and local government ADA coordinators, senior department directors with management oversight, local elected officials, and the staffs of the state associations that directly serve local governments. A principal product of grant activities is the development of ADA training curricula specifically targeted to state and local government. These materials complement project training, enhance the usability of existing ADA materials, and target aspects of ADA compliance that are particular to experiences of state and local government. The training materials are designed in module format and include Basic, Advanced, and Supplemental curricula. Training sessions are being offered at annual statewide meetings of State Municipal Leagues and State Associations of Counties, regional workshops, national meetings of each partner association, and annual meetings of minority caucuses of NLC and NACo. In addition, the project is publishing a series of articles in association publications and providing ongoing technical assistance to state and local government officials and association members.

Maryland

The Americans with Disabilities Act Technical Assistance Coordinator (ADA-TAC) Contract

KRA Corporation
8455 Colesville Road, Suite 935
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3319
adatac@access.digex.net
http://www.icdi.wvu.edu/tech/ada.htm

Principal Investigator: Carol J. Boyer
301/587-3555 (V); 301/495-5626 (TTY); Fax: 301/587-1967

Project Number: HN96001001
Start Date: November 8, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $274,802; FY 96 $290,455; FY 97 $306,538

Abstract: This contract addresses the needs of businesses, the disability community, and state and local governments in implementing the ADA. The activities of the DBTACs and NTPs are promoted through a five-pronged campaign by using state-of-the-art electronic communication media as well as traditional media outreach. The project's Web site links to all of NIDRR's ADA Technical Assistance Programs' Web sites, ADA publications, *Federal Register* notices on the ADA and other disability-related topics, Department of Justice press releases on the ADA, key ADA federal agencies' Web sites, and other ADA-related Web sites. Also, the project facilitates DBTAC and NTP communication, disseminates DBTAC and federal agency materials, coordinates legal reviews of identified materials, and provides ADA information updates. The ADA-TAC facilitates and coordinates six Project Directors' meetings during the contract period. The comprehensive plan of this contract raises ADA awareness, executes ADA policies and procedures established by businesses, and upgrades public services with state and local governments.

The ADA National Access for Public Schools Project

Adaptive Environments Center, Inc.
374 Congress Street, Suite 301
Boston, MA 02210
adaptive@adaptenv.org
http://www.adaptenv.org

Principal Investigator: Elaine Ostroff
Contact: Kathy Gips
800/893-1225 (V/TTY Schools Hotline); 617/695-1225 (V/TTY); Fax: 617/482-8099

Project Number: H133D40019
Start Date: October 1, 1994 **Length:** 39 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 94 $250,000; FY 95 $288,192; FY 96 $250,000; FY 97 (No-cost extension through 6/30/98)

Abstract: The Project, in cooperation with the American Association of School Administrators and the American Association of Education Service Agencies, builds and supports a national capacity to help school districts respond to the ADA. The strategy uses a two-tiered training model in which the national expert team delivers trainings to assist school systems in conducting the required self-evaluation and implementing necessary changes. This team also trains and supports regional trainers that are available to school districts. Adaptive Environments is continuing to work with the regional DBTACs to co-lead training programs for administrators as well as parent groups. In addition, during the no-cost extension period, a series of short fact sheets and a video are being produced for distribution through the DBTACs and Adaptive Environments. A series of question-and-answer brochures, developed in cooperation with the Office of Civil Rights, based on questions from the schools hotline and training programs, are also available online. Continuing programs initiated during the project are designed to continue beyond the NIDRR funding period. Adaptive Environments' support efforts include the toll free Schools Hotline; the electronic mailing list; the Internet ADA and the Public Schools Website as resources for public school administrators and others; and nationally promoted audio teleconferences. All publications produced by the project are available in print, alternative formats, and through electronic media.

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ADA Training for Independent Living Centers

National Council on Independent Living (NCIL)
2111 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 405
Arlington, VA 22201

Principal Investigator: Anne-Marie Hughey
Contact: Michelle Coster Newman
703/525-3406 (V); 703/525-4153 (TTY); Fax: 703/525-3409

Project Number: H133D50023
Start Date: December 1, 1995 **Length:** 36 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
NIDRR Funding: FY 95 $250,000; FY 96 $250,000; FY 97 $250,000
Abstract: This project is designed to enhance the capabilities of staff of centers for independent living (CILs) to foster effective implementation of the ADA through training made available to all 415 CILs currently identified. The project addresses nine functional objectives: (1) identify national centers for independent living (CILs) that do not have staff who have obtained substantive training on the ADA; (2) conduct a focused needs assessment to confirm data currently available to the National CIL, Disability Rights, Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), and Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU) on the ADA-related needs of CILs; (3) refine instructional content and methods from previous ADA offerings to address directly the identified needs of the field; (4) prepare a cadre of regional ADA specialists using train-the-trainer techniques; (5) complete training arrangements and prepare materials that provide optimal access to all potential trainees; (6) offer six stand-alone, onsite training sessions, augmented by several topical offerings conducted in conjunction with other meetings and conferences; (7) test communications technology as a means of providing training and technical assistance to people in geographically remote locations; (8) provide follow-up support for trainees; and (9) identify additional ADA-related information needs of the field and disseminate recommendations for addressing these needs.

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NIDRR CONTRACTS

Through its contracts, NIDRR seeks improved methods, systems, products, and practices involved in the rehabilitation process. NIDRR funds contracts to perform specified activities related to rehabilitation research and information dissemination.

Assistive Technology Funding and Systems Change
This project, HN94040001, appears in Chapter 11, State Technology Assistance Projects.

ABLEDATA Database Program
This project, HN96015001, appears in Chapter 3, Utilization Projects.

The Americans with Disabilities Act Technical Assistance Coordinator (ADA-TAC) Contract
This project, HN96001001, appears in Chapter 12, ADA Technical Assistance Projects.

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)
This project, HN970020, appears in Chapter 3, Utilization Projects.

National Classification System
This project, HN970510, appears in Chapter 11, State Technology Assistance Projects.

Virginia

Management Support

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Project Number: HN93042001
Start Date: October 1, 1993 **Length:** 60 months
NIDRR Officer: Joseph DePhillips
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Abstract: Under the task orders established in this contract, Conwal provides management analysis of the NIDRR peer-review process, including recommendations for models, quality control in the selection of individual NIDRR peer reviewers, and analysis and presentation of trends in rehabilitation research funding across federal agencies, including identification and analysis of electronically accessible sources of funded research. Conwal also arranges and facilitates program reviews of NIDRR's RTCs and RERCs, and organizes reviews of the State Technology Assistance Program. Conwal is assisting NIDRR in the development of its long range plans.

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University of South Carolina School of Medicine	H224A60001	Columbia, SC	11-47
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808/586-5366; 800/645-3007 (V/TTY, in state only); 808/532-7110 (V/TTY) 11-15

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713/794-2069 8-11

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415/561-0712 6-11

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800/784-3425 (V/TTY, in state only); 614/292-2426 (V); 614/292-3162 (TTY) 4-12,11-41

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407/568-4924 9-4

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914/328-6410 2-31

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515/271-3061 6-23

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504/584-3515 6-25

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Full Citizenship, Inc.
913/749-0603 1-6

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Maine Department of Education
207/287-5950 (V); 207/287-2550 (TTY); 207/621-3195 (V/TTY) 11-23

Stoddard, Susan, PhD, AICP
InfoUse
510/549-6520 (V); 510/549-6523 (TTY) 3-1

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University of Colorado/Denver
303/620-4494 6-13

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510/465-7884 (V); 510/465-4493 (TTY) 1-2

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313/936-7052 .... 7-9, 8-6

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913/864-7600 (V); 913/864-7615 (TTY) 2-21, 8-4

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Turpin, Robin, PhD
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312/908-4078 5-1

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608/263-5408 (TTY) 1-21, 4-15

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202/651-5257 (V/TTY) 4-5

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813/974-4612; 813/974-6104 6-16

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PA, VA, and WV); 301/217-0124 (V/TTY) 12-3

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202/806-8086 (V); 202/244-7628 (TTY) 2-16

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FAAST, Inc.
800/322-7881 (V/TTY - in state,
information and referral only);
850/487-3278 (V/TTY) 11-12

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Los Amigos Research and Education
Institute, Inc. (LAREI)
562/401-7048; 562/401-7161;
562/401-7402 .... 2-6, 7-2

Watson, Douglas, PhD
University of Arkansas
501/686-9691 (V/TTY) 2-4, 6-2

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Virginia Commonwealth University
804/828-6772 (V); 804/828-1851 (V);
804/828-2494 (TTY) 2-39

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800/433-5255 (V); 817/261-6003 (V);
817/277-0553 (TTY) 6-57

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913/864-4780 1-7

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215/456-9565; 215/456-9597 1-12

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617/624-5967; 617/523-6565 6-30

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916/752-2903 (V); 916/752-3468 (TTY) 2-8

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800/866-2253 (V/TTY, in state only);
800/659-4915 (TTY, in state only);
505/827-3532 (V); 505/827-3587 (TTY) 11-35

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800/657-3862 (V, in state only); 800/657-3895 (TTY, in state only); 612/296-2771 (V); 612/296-8478 (TTY) 11-27

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303/492-3050 (V); 303/492-1355 (TTY); 303/492-3042 (V) 6-12

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NIDRR PROJECTS ON THE INTERNET

Updated site listings are available from the NARIC home page, at **http://www.naric.com/naric**

ADA Technical Assistance Projects

The ADA National Access for Public Schools Project (12-13)
http://www.adaptenv.org

The Americans with Disabilities Act Technical Assistance Coordinator (ADA-TAC) Contract (12-12)
http://www.icdi.wvu.edu/tech/ada.htm

Great Lakes Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center - Region V (12-5)
http://www.gldbtac.org

Great Plains Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center - Region VII (12-7)
http://www.idir.net/~adabbs/general/dbtact.htm

Mid-Atlantic Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center - Region III (12-3)
http://www.adainfo.org

New England Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center - Region I (12-1)
http://www.adaptenv.org

Pacific Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center - Region IX (12-9)
http://www.pacdbtac.org

Rocky Mountain Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center - Region VIII (12-8)
http://www.ada-infonet.org

Southeast Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center - Region IV (12-4)
http://www.sedbtac.org

Fellowships (Distinguished)

Comparative Study of Workplace Policy and Practices Contributing to Discrimination (5-3)
http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/ped

Fellowships (Merit)

Community Based Rehabilitation (5-8)
http://www.onr.com/user/geno/cbr.html

Field Initiated Research Projects

Adaptive Parenting Equipment: Evaluation, Development, Dissemination, and Marketing (6-3)
http://www.lookingglass.org

Aging and Adjustment After Spinal Cord Injury: A Twenty-Five Year Longitudinal Study (6-18)
http://www.shepherd.org

Cash and Counseling Models for Americans with Disabilities (6-14)
http://www.ncoa.org

Developing and Evaluating Family Networks: Positive Behavioral Support (6-16)
http://lumpy.fmhi.usf.edu/CFSroot/dares/dares.htm#anchor175096

A Direction Finding, Beam Forming (DF-BF) Conference Microphone System (6-44)
http://idt.net/~reslex

Enhancing Employment Outcomes of African Americans Who Are Blind: Identifying and Meeting Unique Needs (6-38)
http://www.msstate.edu/dept/rrtc/blind.html

An Examination of Resiliency and Risk in Young Children with Disabilities (6-58)
http://www.usu.edu/~eiri

Experimental Test of Demand-Side Job Development in Iowa and Georgia (6-23)
http://www.educ.drake.edu/nri/nidrr/default.html

Illinois Joint Training Initiative on Disability and Abuse: Advocacy and Empowerment Through Knowledge Dissemination (6-19)
http://www.uic.edu/depts/idhd

Impact of the Home- and Community-Based Waiver on Employment Outcomes of Individuals with Disabilities (6-61)

http://www.vcu.edu/rrtcweb

Integrated Services and Parent Partnerships in Schools: Meeting the Needs of Children with Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities and Their Families (6-17)

http://lumpy.fmhi.usf.edu

Multimedia Job Accommodations Curriculum Project for Persons Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (6-2)

http://www.uark.edu/depts/rehabres

A Pilot Study for the Clinical Evaluation of Pressure-Relieving Seat Cushions for Elderly Stroke Patients (6-53)

http://pft5xx36.ft90.upmc.edu/RST/SSBL

Post-Traumatic Epilepsy in Traumatic Brain Injury (6-8)

http://members.aol.com/TBISCIProj/TBISCIProj.html

Promoting Choice and Self-Determination in Adults with Cognitive Disabilities: A Research and Demonstration Project (6-57)

http://TheArc.org

Quantitative Assessment of Rehabilitation for Patients with Cerebellar Dysfunction (6-29)

http://www.mgh.harvard.edu/depts/biomotion/index.htm

Remote Signage Development to Address Current and Emerging Access Problems for Blind Individuals (6-10)

http://www.ski.org

Rhode Island Supported Employment Project (6-42)

http://www.dartmouth.edu/dms/psychrc

Seeking, Screening, Evaluating, Describing, and Disseminating Approaches Used by Two-Year Colleges to Serve Rehabilitation Services Clients with Severe/Multiple Functional Limitations in Highly Effective Ways (6-64)

http://www.cew.wisc.edu/nidrr

The Self-Employment Experience: Learning About Entrepreneurs with Disabilities to Build Models for Improving Self-Employment Outcomes (6-39)

http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu

Severe Intrauterine Growth Retardation: Rehabilitative Intervention in the NICU (6-31)

http://web1.tch.harvard.edu

Spatial Hearing with Laboratory-Based Hearing Aids (6-11)

http://www.ski.org

Toward a Risk Adjustment Methodology for People with Disabilities (6-15)

http://www.intr.net/nrhrc

Voice Recognition and Secondary Students with Disabilities: Realizing the Potential (6-32)

http://www.edc.org/FSC/NCIP/VR/VR_home.html

Model Spinal Cord Injury Systems

Georgia Regional Model Spinal Cord Injury Care System (7-5)

http://www.shepherd.org

Missouri Model Spinal Cord Injury System (7-10)

http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/som/pmr/momscis/momscis.htm

Model Construct for Community Integration in SCI (7-18)

http://www.mcw.edu/spinal

Model Spinal Cord Injury System (7-1)

http://www.sci.rehabm.uab.edu/docs/modeluab.htm

Model Spinal Cord Injury System (7-6)

http://www.nwu.edu/spine

Mount Sinai Spinal Cord Injury Model System (7-12)

http://www.mssm.edu/rehab/home-page.html

Northeast Ohio Regional Spinal Cord Injury System (7-13)
http://www.metrohealth.org/clinical/NORSCIS/

Northern California Model Spinal Cord Injury System (7-3)
http://members.aol.com/TBISCIProj/TBISCIProj.html

Northwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury System (7-17)
http://weber.u.washington.edu/~rehab/sci

Rocky Mountain Regional Spinal Injury System (7-4)
http://www.craig-hospital.org/rehab

University of Michigan Model Spinal Cord Injury System (7-9)
http://www.med.umich.edu/pmr/model_sci

VCU/MCV Spinal Cord Injured (SCI) Model System (7-16)
http://views.vcu.edu/html/pmr/sci

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers

Applications of Technology to the Rehabilitation of Children with Orthopedic Disabilities (4-1)
http://www.rachorep.org

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center in Augmentative Communication (4-3)
http://www.asel.udel.edu

Rehabilitation Robotics to Enhance the Functioning of Individuals with Disabilities (4-4)
http://www.asel.udel.edu

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Universal Telecommunications Access (4-5)
http://tap.gallaudet.edu/RERC_UTA.htm

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Prosthetics and Orthotics (4-6)
http://www.repoc.nwu.edu

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Modifications to Worksites and Educational Settings (4-7)
http://www.engr.twsu.edu/cpr-wsu

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Technology Evaluation and Transfer (RERC-TET) (4-10)
http://cosmos.ot.buffalo.edu/aztech.html

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Assistive Technology for Older Persons with Disabilities (4-8)
http://wings.buffalo.edu/ot/cat/rerca.htm

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Hearing Enhancement and Assistive Devices (4-9)
http://idt.net/~reslex

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Accessible and Universal Design in Housing (4-11)
http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/design/cud

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center for Quantification of Physical Performance (4-12)
http://www.ortho.ohio-state.edu/RERC/RERC.html

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Technology to Improve Wheelchair Mobility (4-13)
http://128.147.90.92/rtp/RERCHP.html

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Adaptive Computers and Information Systems (4-15)
http://trace.wisc.edu

Smith-Kettlewell Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (4-2)
http://www.ski.org/rerc

Vermont Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center for Low Back Pain (4-14)
http://salus.med.uvm.edu/~backtalk

Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers

American Indian Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (2-2)
http://www.nau.edu/~ihd

Disability Statistics Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (2-7)
http://dsc.ucsf.edu

Missouri Arthritis Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (MARRTC) (2-29)
http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/arthritis
http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/fibro

The MRI/Penn Training Center on Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Persons with Long-Term Mental Illness (2-35)
http://www.matrixresearch.com

National Research and Training Center on Psychiatric Disability (2-18)
http://www.psych.uic.edu/~rtc

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Secondary Complications in Spinal Cord Injury (2-1)
http://www.sci.rehabm.uab.edu/docs/rrtchome.htm

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Rehabilitation of American Indians with Disabilities (2-3)
http://www.ahsc.arizona.edu/fcm/nartc

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Enhancing Employability of Individuals with Disabilities (2-5)
http://comp.uark.edu/~rehab/rtcvor.html

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Persons Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (2-4)
http://www.uark.edu/depts/rehabres

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Families of Adults with Disabilities (2-11)
http://www.lookingglass.org

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Neuromuscular Diseases (2-8)
http://disability.ucdavis.edu

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with a Disability (2-10)
http://www.usc.edu/dept/gero/RRTConAging

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Personal Assistance Services (PAS) (2-13)
http://www.wid.org

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Independent Living and Disability Policy (2-12)
http://www.wid.org

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center of the Pacific (2-9)
http://interwork.sdsu.edu

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with Spinal Cord Injury (2-14)
http://www.craig-hospital.org/rehab

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Access to Rehabilitation and Economic Opportunity (2-16)
http://www.law.howard.edu/HURTC/HURTC.html

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health (2-17)
http://lumpy.fmhi.usf.edu

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with Mental Retardation (2-19)
http://www.uic.edu/orgs/rrtcamr/index.html

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Independent Living (Underserved) (2-22)
http://www.lsi.ukans.edu/rtcil/rtcbroc.htm

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Improving the Functioning of Families Who Have Members with Disabilities (2-21)
http://www.lsi.ukans.edu/Beach/Beachhp.htm

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Rehabilitation and Childhood Trauma (2-24)
http://www.nemc.org/rehab/homepg.htm

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Rehabilitation for Persons with Long-Term Mental Illness (2-23)
http://web.bu.edu/SARPSYCH

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Improving Community Integration for Persons with Mental Retardation (2-26)
http://www.ici.coled.umn.edu/ici

Rehabilitation Research and Training Project for Infants, Children, and Youth (2-27)
http://www.peds.umn.edu/Centers

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision (2-28)
http://www.msstate.edu/dept/rrtc/blind.html

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health (2-34)
http://www.rtc.pdx.edu

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Independent Living Center Management and Services (2-37)
http://www.ilru.org

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Improving Supported Employment Outcomes for Individuals with Developmental and Other Severe Disabilities (2-39)
http://www.vcu.edu/rrtcweb

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Management of Information and Information Systems in State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies (2-40)
http://www.icdi.wvu.edu

Research and Demonstration Projects

A Comprehensive System of Care for Traumatic Brain Injury (1-1)
http://members.aol.com/TBISCIProj/TBISCIProj.html

A Four-Year Research and Demonstration Project to Address Ways to Improve the Employment Practices Covered by Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (1-10)
http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/ped

Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (1-11)
http://www.ohiovalley.org

Rehabilitation of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers with Disabilities (1-2)
http://www.bpacal.com

Understanding and Increasing the Adoption of Universal Design in Product Design (1-21)
http://trace.wisc.edu

University of Washington Burn Injury Rehabilitation Model System (1-20)
http://weber.u.washington.edu/~engrav

Research Training Grants

The Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of a Research Training Program in Psychiatric Rehabilitation (8-5)
http://web.bu.edu/SARPSYCH

Doctoral Training in Physical Therapy (8-3)
http://www.vh.org/Welcome/UIHC/UIHCMedDepts/PhysicalTherapy/PTProg/PtProg.html

Interdisciplinary Research Training in Rehabilitation Technology (8-2)
http://www.asel.udel.edu

Research Enrichment Program for Physiatrists (8-7)
http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/arthritis
http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/fibro

Small Business Innovative Research, Phase I

The Adaptive Device Locator System on the World Wide Web (9-5)
http://www.acsw.com

Broadcast Radio for Individuals Who Are Deaf: Gaining Equity (BRIDGE) (9-6)
http://www.telesonic.com

Hiking Trails Web Site with Universal Access Information (9-2)
http://www.beneficialdesigns.com

Integration of Voice Input and CD-ROM Technology to Provide English-to-Sign-Language Translation for Use on the Job (9-3)
http://www.cmpc.com

Signing Avatars (9-4)
http://www.concentric.net/~seamless

State Technology Assistance Projects

Alaska Assistive Technology Project (11-2)
http://www.corecom.net/ATA/home.html

Arizona Technology Access Program (AzTAP) (11-4)
http://www.nau.edu/~ihd/aztap.html

Arkansas Increasing Capabilities Access Network (ICAN) (11-5)
http://www.arkansas-ican.org

Assistive Technology Funding and Systems Change (11-10)
http://www.ucpa.org/html/innovative/atfsc/index.html

Assistive Technology for Kansans (11-20)
http://www.atk.lsi.ukans.edu

California Assistive Technology System (CATS) (11-6)
http://www.catsca.com

Comprehensive Statewide Program of Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (11-39)
http://www.ndipat.org

Connecticut Tech Act Project (11-8)
http://www.ucc.uconn.edu/~techact

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative (DATI) (11-9)
http://www.asel.udel.edu/dati

Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT) (11-14)
http://uog2.uog.edu/uap/gsat.html

Hawaii Assistive Technology Training and Services (HATTS) Program (11-15)
http://www.hatts.org

Idaho Assistive Technology Project (11-16)
http://www.ets.uidaho.edu/icdd

Kentucky Assistive Technology Service (KATS) Network (11-21)
http://www.katsnet.org

Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MTAP) (11-24)
http://www.mdtap.org

Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership (11-25)
http://www.matp.org

Missouri Assistive Technology Project (11-29)
http://www.dolir.state.mo.us/matp

MonTECH (11-30)
http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu

Nebraska Assistive Technology Project (11-31)
http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ATP/TECHome.html

New Hampshire's Technology Partnership (11-33)
http://www.iod.unh.edu/projects/spd.htm

New Mexico Technology Assistance Program (NMTAP) (11-35)
http://www.rt66.com/catn.org

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project (11-38)
http://www.mindspring.com/~ncatp

Ohio Project on Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAIN) (11-41)
http://train.ovl.osc.edu

Oklahoma ABLE Tech (11-42)
http://www.okstate.edu/wellness/at-home.htm

Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT) (11-44)
http://www.temple.edu/inst_disabilities

Rhode Island Assistive Technology Access Partnership (ATAP) (11-46)
http://www.ors.state.ri.us/assistiv.htm

South Carolina Assistive Technology Program (SCATP) (11-47)
http://www.scsn.net/users/scatp

South Dakota Assistive Technology Project (DakotaLink) (11-48)
http://www.tie.net/dakotalink

Statewide Technology Access and Response (STAR) System for Alabamians with Disabilities (11-1)
http://www.mindspring.com/~alstar

A System of Technology to Achieve Results (STAR) (11-27)
http://www.state.mn.us/ebranch/admin/assistivetechnology.html

Technical Assistance Grant (11-54)
http://www.resna.org/hometa1.htm

Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (11-19)
http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech

Tennessee Technology Access Project (11-49)
http://www.state.tn.us/mental/ttap.html

Texas Assistive Technology Partnership Project (11-50)
http://www.edb.utexas.edu/coe/depts/sped/TATP/TATP.html

Tools for Life - Georgia Assistive Technology Program (11-13)
http://www.gatfl.org

Vermont Assistive Technology Project (11-53)
http://www.state.vt.us/dad/atp/cats.htm

Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS) (11-55)
http://www.vcu.edu/rrtcweb/Vats/vatsview.html

Washington Assistive Technology Alliance (WATA) (11-56)
http://wata.org

West Virginia Assistive Technology System (WVATS) (11-57)
http://www.wvu.edu/~uacdd/wvat.htm

Wyoming New Options in Technology (WYNOT) (11-59)
http://www.uwyo.edu/hs/wind/wynot/wynot.htm

Utilization Projects

ABLEDATA Database Program (3-3)
http://www.abledata.com

Improving Access to Disability Data (3-1)
http://www.infouse.com/disabilitydata

National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research (NCDDR) (3-6)
http://www.ncddr.org

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) (3-4)
http://www.naric.com/naric

National Resource Center on Community Integration for People with Mental Retardation (3-5)
http://soeweb.syr.edu/thechp

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